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Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League Ministerial Council Issues Resolution

JN2010200390 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Oct 90

["Full text" of the Arab League Ministerial Council's Statement issued on 18 October in Tunis]

[Text] The Arab League Council, convening in an extraordinary session in Tunis on the ministerial level at the request of the state of Palestine;

Having discussed the Zionist aggression against the al-Aqsa Mosque and the holy Dome of the Rock on 8 August and the subsequent bloody massacre against the struggling Palestinian people;

Having studied the dangers of this aggression, which is part of the Israeli scheme to Judaize the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly Jerusalem and the holy al-Aqsa Mosque;

Considering this aggression a continuation of the war of annihilation and expulsion waged by the Israeli entity against the Palestinian people, a flagrant violation of all international laws and legitimacy and human rights, and an act of contempt for the will of the international community and human feelings;

Believing that the UN Security Council must continue to deal with world issues on the basis of a single standard founded on international legitimacy to resolve disputes; and,

Having heard the statement made by His Excellency President Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine; resolves:

—To condemn Israel for its fresh aggression against the al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock and for the bloody massacre it committed against the Palestinians, and to hold the Israeli occupation authorities fully responsible for these criminal acts.

—To stress the Arab countries' firm adherence to Arab and Palestinian rights to Jerusalem as the capital of the independent Palestinian state, and to emphasize their determination to defend this right and protect the sacred shrines in the face of Zionist defiance.

—To emphasize that Jerusalem is an indivisible part of the occupied Palestinian land, that Israel's written law making Jerusalem the undivided capital of Israel is null and void, and that all legislative and administrative measures to change, or that have sought to change, the identity of Arab Jerusalem and its legal status are also null and void and must be terminated forthwith.

—To urge the international community to assume its full responsibility in deterring the mounting Zionist aggression and to take whatever feasible measures are needed to put a quick end to this recurring aggression.

—To denounce the biased U.S. positions in favor of Israel, to ask the United States to change its stands on national Palestinian and Arab rights and cease its support of Israel; to urge it to be guided by international legitimacy in ending the Israeli policy of repression and terror, to implement UN Security Council Resolution 672, and to stress the need to implement all the UN principles and resolutions pertaining to the Palestinian question and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

—To authorize the Arab ministerial committee charged with supporting the intifadah to follow up the very serious developments in the situation in the occupied Arab territories, including the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 672 and the convocation of the next UN Security Council meeting at the date specified in that resolution. The committee should also continue its political, diplomatic, and media activity and contacts, especially with the permanent members of the UN Security Council and other influential international parties with the aim of securing international protection for the Palestinian people, whether through the dispatch of international observers or troops to be entrusted with this task until a Zionist withdrawal and the establishment of comprehensive peace is achieved.

—To endeavor to place the occupied Arab territories under interim international supervision, which must continue until the establishment of peace through the Israeli occupation troops' withdrawal and the Palestinian people's exercise of their right to self-determination.

—To call for the imposition of the sanctions provided for in Chapter 7 of the UN Charter against Israel because of its refusal to comply with the resolutions of the UN Security Council and international legitimacy.

—To work for convening the international Middle East peace conference under the auspices of the UN Security Council—with the aim of implementing UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and all resolutions of international legitimacy pertaining to the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict in order to secure the Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and enable the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination and national sovereignty—with UN supervision and the participation of all parties concerned, including the PLO on equal footing with the other parties in its capacity as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people.

—To follow up the implementation of the resolutions approved by Arab summits on financial aid for the Palestinian intifadah and the other various forms of support recommended by the Arab League Council to enhance the steadfastness of the intifadah and escalate it.

—To urge member states to contribute effectively toward the various forms of support needed by the projects and resolutions adopted by the Jerusalem

Committee, including the rehabilitation of buildings in old Jerusalem; the restoration of the holy Dome of the Rock; and supporting the steadfastness of the city's population, especially with regard to encouraging housing projects and Arab construction projects, the al-Haram al-Sharif guards, and the employees of the Islamic Awqaf and the religious institutions.

—To continue to implement Arab resolutions and programs on opposing the intensive Jewish immigration and the settlement projects in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories.

—To express gratitude and appreciation to the friendly states that have condemned the atrocious Israeli aggression and supported Arab and Palestinian rights, and to call on them to continue their efforts to defend justice and strengthen international security and peace.

—And, to express the Arab nation's pride in and appreciation for the struggling Palestinian people's sacrifices and great steadfastness in the face of the Zionist aggression, and their defense of the nation's holy places, and humbly and respectfully to beg for mercy on the souls of the righteous martyrs.

Palestinian Affairs

PLO on Beirut 'Massacres,' U.S. 'Silence'

JN2210171590 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1626 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] An official PLO source made the following statement yesterday morning: The PLO expresses its denunciation of the horrible crime against Dany Sham'un, his wife, and his children in Beirut yesterday morning and dismisses it as a crime that violates the most fundamental human principles. The PLO also expresses deep regret for the massacres perpetrated in eastern Beirut after the surrender of General 'Awn's forces.

The PLO believes that the massacres being committed in eastern Beirut serve neither the interests of the Lebanese, nor Lebanon's stability and unity. The PLO draws attention to the suspicious U.S. silence regarding these crimes—something that raises doubts on the role of the U.S. Administration in the current developments in Lebanon.

'Arafat Addresses Arab League Meeting in Tunis

LD1910224990 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Address by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, to the meeting of the Arab League Ministerial Council in Tunis on 17 October—read by announcer]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Brother Chairman, brother Assistant Secretary-General, brother ministers, brother heads of the Arab delegation. I thank you very much for attending this meeting in compliance with your conscience, your duty, your feelings, your religion, your faith, and your pan-Arab stance.

At this meeting of ours which is being held at the Arab League, we are facing a tragedy which we have already talked about and about which we have given details. However, some of us could not believe what was taking place. What did take place in holy Jerusalem was not merely criminal aggression against the children, women, and people of Palestine. Since the beginning of the intifadah, we have lost 1,300 martyrs, of whom 40 to 45 percent were under 16. [passage omitted]

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. [passage omitted] You will recall that an Islamic conference was convened following the burning of the al-Aqsa Mosque, when they attempted to burn it down, get rid of it, and carry out their crime against our holy shrines. This led to the birth of the Islamic Conference Organization. Brothers, what has happened now? Was this a massacre? Massacres are daily occurrences. Every week brings new massacres. My brother Abu-al-Layth has daily details on this issue. Is there a day without massacres, martyrs, or the injured, from Rafa' to al-Nasirah? The picture of their alleged temple is officially distributed in two regions: inside Israel, and inside the United States, because the main headquarters of the association of trustees and sons of Solomon's temple is in New York. This picture was taken from an El Al Israeli airline in-flight magazine. We managed to obtain this picture and the original picture of our holy mosque so that we would be able to compare the two.

What actually happened was that the residents of Jerusalem started to move when they realized that the sons and trustees of the temple would hold an official ceremony in which the police, army, representatives of the government, and Jewry would take part. People—Muslims and Christians—slept inside the holy al-Aqsa Mosque. When other Israeli officials arrived in the morning, the Muslims and Christians formed a human wall to prevent them from laying the foundation stone of Solomon's temple. [passage omitted]

When we called for this meeting some colleagues failed to turn up. It is true that they had other commitments, one or two of them, that is. However, concerning the rest, the majority, what can you say to the Muslims? What can you say to your Arab nation? What other duties can keep you away from the cause of the Palestinian people?

Our blood has been spilled. We did not call you because of our blood. Is it that our blood is cheap and does not matter? We called you because of your sacred Islamic and Christian places. I have the right to say: Why did some Arab foreign ministers not attend? I ask all my brother representatives here to ask the foreign ministers: Why did they not come to defend the first of the two Qiblahs and the third most holy place, the site of the

ascension of the prophet Muhammad, God's prayers and peace be on him, and the birthplace of Jesus?

What do we want? I would like to remind you of what you said in these resolutions, the resolutions we adopted last time on this issue, the issue of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian cause. What do these resolutions say about Jerusalem? They confirm the historic, national, and spiritual status of Jerusalem. This was at the Baghdad summit in May; that is, five months ago. The ink has not yet dried. They confirm the historic, national, and spiritual status of Jerusalem from the Arab, Islamic, and Christian viewpoints. They confirm that Jerusalem is an integral part of the Palestinian territories and the capital of the state of Palestine, and that any violation of its religious, legal, or civil status is a blatant violation of the international treaties and resolutions.

You are the ones who said these words and who issued them through the highest level of the Arab countries—the Arab summit. The Arab sumit announced these words and stressed the condemnation of the two U.S. Congress resolutions considering Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and called on the Congress to cancel these two illegal resolutions which contradict international law and the UN resolutions. These two resolutions are the official American position regarding the holy city. You called for the adoption of political and economic measures against any country that considers Jerusalem the capital of Israel.

Today you all heard Baker saying: Jerusalem is united and will remain united. This is Baker. What are you going to do about Baker? Could you adopt a resolution against Baker? Could we adopt a resolution against Baker? I hope so.

Today in the U.S. Congress he said: Jerusalem is united. This is to emphasize the words of Sharon, who defied the Arabs, Muslims, and the Jerusalem Committee when he said: Jerusalem is united, and it is the eternal capital of the State of Israel.

And so on. You supported the Jerusalem Committee resolution calling for a Christian conference and calling on all Arab information media to play their role in exposing immigration's dangers to the Islamic and Christian holy places in Palestine and noble Jerusalem. This is your decision; I am merely asking you to take measures to implement these resolutions which we have adopted with our brothers. All the Arab foreign ministers should work hard for the implementation of these resolutions. We at the summit adopt the resolutions and the Arab League Council is supposed to implement them. The Arab League implements, and its institutions adopt, but the most important institution of the Arab League is the Ministerial Council and, regrettably, less than half the ministers are attending this session. What can i say: Help? No one will hear me. But at the same time, I remind you of another resolution: to convene the Joint Defense Council. The resolution says: The need to adopt effective measures to secure the necessary defense capabilities, and to confront the aggressive and expansionist Israeli plans and the challenges confronting the Arab states, in adherence to the Arab League Charter, the Joint Defense Treaty, and Arab economic cooperation.

Do I not have the right to ask: Do we still care for Jerusalem, or have we consigned it to the wastebasket? We did not call you because of a massacre; the massacres against us continue. I did not call you because of a massacre in Jerusalem; I called you because of the protection of the Islamic and Christian holy places. This is an important matter. I know there are people who are interested in other matters, but I appeal to them: In addition to your interest in other things, show a little interest in the holy places. [passage omitted] In the same disastrous manner, brothers, we have the issue of Jewish immigration, about which we adopted resolutions in the Ministerial Council and at the summit conference. Indeed, the Baghdad summit conference was originally held to discuss the Israeli and American threats to Iraq and Jordan, Jewish immigration, and the intifadah. What have we done to halt Jewish immigration? Between 170,000 and 180,000 immigrants, mostly from the Soviet Union, and from Argentina, Ethiopia, Eastern Europe, and other countries, have arrived. This immigration, brothers, is it for the Palestinians? We and the Jews in Palestine occupy all the land, in addition to the Golan and southern Lebanon. In accordance with Camp David, part of Sinai is still without sovereignty. Thus, this immigration is not for us. It is for greater Israel. We distributed a plan for this with the help of the Arab League. I say this because the situation is indeed serious. Some of you will say to me: We now have a problem, the Gulf crisis. There is the crisis in the Gulf, but can they not pray to God? Defense and jihad for the holy places is part of worship. These are your holy places, part of your worship. Is it reasonable that you will not pray for them? You should pray for them, and this is part of worship. I say this at the same time, brothers; let us not let the Gulf crisis shatter the Arab edifice.

This Arab nation has experienced numerous problems and obstacles. We have managed to solve them within an Arab context, without having to break each other's backs, and without having to seek assistance from foreigners to solve our problems. We stated this fact at the Cairo Arab summit, and we still say it.

Because of problems that occurred between us and our brothers in Syria, a committee was set up. The Riyad conference was convened and, thank God, this problem was solved in 1976. Then the Cairo summit took place in late 1976. In Lebanon, we carried out the work of another committee, composed of King Fahd, King Hassan II, and President Chadli Bendjedid. This committee issued important resolutions called the al-Ta'if resolutions. In like manner, I would like to say that we should deal with the Gulf crisis in an Arab spirit, brothers, because if we do not solve it within the Arab framework, a war, imposed on us, will take place in which there will be no winner. We will all lose this war.

This is not Vietnam; these are battles taking place in the midst of the most important wealth we have—the oil fields. Do they not say that we have Arab military power and Arab wealth in the Gulf? Because our agriculture is underdeveloped, we spend $34 million on food; we buy food from abroad. Our agriculture only covers part of our needs. This war will take place in the oil regions; therefore, we should find a peaceful solution, a peaceful Arab solution.

Some people may wonder whether this is possible. I say to them, yes, this is possible. I am also a pragmatic man. Therefore, I support a peaceful Arab solution. Hence, the presence of these international forces (?should) have an international cover.

If we do not seek, however, to solve the problem among ourselves, Bush will not be interested in solving this problem, Kohl will have no interest in solving the problem, and neither will Thatcher. It is we who have an interest in solving the problem among ourselves, brothers. We should solve this problem ourselves. Once again I appeal to you, and I am addressing my Arab brothers, Arab leaders: What is going on? We should not break each other's backs within the Arab nation. We should solve this problem in a way that will protect everyone's dignity, safeguard everybody's rights, and protect the Arab regime. If a war erupts, a new Yalta will emerge in the region; if a war erupts, there will be a new Sykes-Picot in the region. However, there will be a particular Yalta and Sykes-Picot in our region only if a destructive and endless war erupts. There should be no (?chaos). Let us ask whether we want resolutions or solutions. We want solutions. These solutions require Arab wise men. President Mitterrand has said this; the European statement said it; the European-Soviet communique mentioned it; even Bush mentioned it in his speech when he discussed the future of the entire region.

It is true that he said he makes no link; this is his opinion. [Words indistinct], however, our solution with which we can solve all our issues. I say once again, and I appeal to you brothers, to all Arab leaders, that if this war erupts in our oil fields it will destroy our economy and military power; then what are we going to be left with? We should try hard; we should not get tired or lose hope; no one should lose hope because God's mercy is always with us. [passage omitted]

I hope that your Jerusalem and your sacred places will have a place in your consciences. I am sure of that, but I hope that nothing will take priority over them because there is nothing more valuable than the sacred places.

In this context I am sure that merely holding this meeting indicates an Arab wish to face up to what is now happening in the Security Council.

This is the second time they have deceived me in the Security Council. The first time, the Americans deceived me. There are witnesses to this. They are my brother, the chairman of the Egyptian delegation, and the UN secretary-general, who told me that there was a committee and I should accept it. This was when I was in Geneva. They said: We hope you will accept an investigation committee comprised of three countries: France, Ethiopia, and Canada. I said: Yes. I left Geneva to attend meetings, then they suddenly postponed the meeting and referred it to New York, where their own proposal was vetoed. The Yemeni delegate is a witness to this because he was the one who followed up this resolution.

Again, we recently submitted a resolution from seven Nonaligned countries. They threatened to use the veto. No committee from the Security Council, but a committee from the secretary-general.

We have two previous committees from the secretary-general. Goulding, the assistant secretary-general, personally went and wrote a report. It was not submitted to the Security Council. He was followed by Ambassador Aime. They said that the secretary-general would send a fact-finding mission. They deceived us again as they deceived us before. Aime went and came back, and he was not even asked to submit a report. They considered his verbal report to the secretary-general as sufficient.

Would the new commission do any more than Aime and Goulding? Anyway, Israel rejected this commission. What is the American reaction? The American reaction is this: Baker said today that the united Jerusalem [sentence incomplete as heard]. We say, together with international legitimacy: East Jerusalem, Arab Jerusalem, and holy Jerusalem are occupied territories, but Baker says that united Jerusalem is for them. He repeats what Sharon says. Therefore, brothers, these are the reactions.

We have responsibilities. I appeal to you to think seriously about all these moves and to confront the Judaization of the holy city and the Judaization of Palestine. You say: When the Gulf war ends, the Palestinian problem is solved. Some people say that. Do they insist on war? Who can predict the outcome and results? The region needs rescue. Who would benefit in the region? It is the United States and Israel. Therefore, I say most earnestly that we must work relentlessly for an Arab solution before a disaster occurs, because this is the only way to stop the Judaization of Jerusalem. This is what will stop the construction of greater Israel. This is what will stop Jewish immigration and nothing else.

I am sorry; I have talked too long. In fact, I did not come to make a speech; I only came to clarify the difficult facts among which we, the Palestinians, live and, more importantly, among which the Arab nation lives. If the body is ill, will not then every part of it also be ill? What is the use? We are a part of this Arab body. [passage omitted]

Your yourselves saw yesterday on television that Hurd announced in his statement: No to the Palestinian state, and no to the PLO. In the morning the Palestinian heroes refused to meet him. This is a people which had decided not to kneel except to God Almighty.

It is true that this afternoon the British Foreign Office issued a shy denial. It said: No, we are for the self-determination of the Palestinian people. Wake up! Thatcher herself said that to CNN in an interview on the same subject. It is an American-Israeli-British policy. Where are we?

It is, however, an honor to our people. It is a gift from God Almighty to honor us with the right to defend these sacred places. [passage omitted]

I would like you to tell the brother Arab leaders that the Palestinian child will keep defending these sacred places with his stones, his blood, and his flesh, whether he receives support or not. [passage omitted]

Islamic Jihad To Continue, Intensify Operations

NC2210184590 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] The Palestinian Islamic Jihad Organization issued a statement in Beirut this morning in which it announced that its anti-Zionist operations will continue and intensify. The statement pledged to God and His Prophet that the Palestinian mujahidin will continue their holy jihad until the Zionist entity and its U.S. defenders are destroyed.

The statement called on the Islamic nation, particularly the Muslims of the Persian Gulf, to mobilize their capabilities and confront the U.S. occupation forces.

New Islamic Jihad Organization, Leader Identified

JN2210141890 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] The Islamic Jihad Organization-al-Aqsa Battalions, which claimed the Jerusalem operation, has said that it will carry out a series of operations in Jerusalem in the next few days in retaliation for the al-Aqsa martyrs. A spokesman for the organization in Amman announced that it separated from the Islamic Jihad Organization-Bayt al-Maqdis, four months ago and that it no longer recognizes the power of its spiritual leader Shaykh As'ad Bayyud al-Tamimi. The spokesman said that the spiritual leader of the Islamic Jihad Organization-al-Aqsa Battalions is Shaykh Ibrahim Musarbil, a resistance man in the occupied territory who had been imprisoned by the Israeli authorities and who is now in Jordan. He added that the organization is active in the occupied territory and is present in a number of Arab countries, particularly Syria.

Intifadah Command Ready To Meet UN Commission

LD1910190690 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] The Intifadah National Unified Command announced its full readiness to receive the commission of the UN secretary-general and to cooperate with it in all fields, and also announced its refusal to cooperate with the committee formed by the Israeli Government.

This is noted in a statement issued by the National Unified Command. It reads in part:

In view of the fact that Resolution No. 672 lacks the simplest aspirations of the Palestinian people and that it does not respond to the just demands of the Palestinian people, which were submitted by the PLO to the UN Security Council; and on the basis of the UN's international responsibility for the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, and the fact that the United Nations has not carried out its duties toward the Palestinian people; and because of our commitment and adherance to the UN Charter and what is issued by its organizations, we announce the following:

First: We are ready to receive the UN secretary-general's commission and to cooperate with it in all fields and facilitate its work.

Second: We refuse to cooperate with the committee formed by the Israeli Government.

VOP Commentary Praises Jerusalem Stabbings

JN2210213490 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1827 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers, we said and we are still repeating that Palestinian blood will not go in vain, and that the Zionist enemy's crimes will not go unpunished. We say this while fully confident that we are able to hit back more strongly and make the enemy pay for his crimes. We say this while the crimes of the enemy are still before our eyes, and the blood of our martyrs and wounded in the al-Haram al-Sharif has not yet dried. We say it loud, and let those near and far understand that Jerusalem and all of Palestine was and will continue to be the starting point for peace in the region and the world. This hoped-for peace will not be achieved under the spears of Zionist occupation, or through incomplete and partial international resolutions that ignore the crux of the Palestine question and fail to point to the need for international protection for the Palestinian people and for expediting the termination of the occupation of the land of Palestine.

And we stress what we have said a thousand and one times, that the Palestine question can no longer tolerate slackening or resolutions that do not go farther than the filing cabinets of the United Nations. We also say that the timid Arab resolutions that dared not hold the United States responsible for protecting the crimes of the Zionist enemy will only heighten the enemy's arrogance and persistence in perpetrating new crimes against our courageous Palestinian people. We are saying this because Palestinian action alone can foil all maneuvers to divert international legitimacy and submit to the U.S. will. Palestinian action alone does not need permission in advance to enter Palestine, nor does it lack the

intelligence to take the masks off the faces of the so-called Arabs who translate their support for the Palestinian people by taking the side of the Zionist-American enemy and its hostile designs against the Arab nation.

We are saying this out of our rich experience that has entered its 43d year. Throughout all those long years, all Arab and international resolutions failed to curb Zionist terrorism, and after international legitimacy failed the test of al-Aqsa—as well as preceding and subsequent tests—thanks to U.S. hegemony, revolutionary reaction became the need, the hope, and the real action.

Yesterday, a Palestinian youth carried the decision of his country and people, and with all determination and courage infiltrated the siege that the occupation authorities had imposed on Jerusalem in the wake of the horrible crime [passage indistinct]. Through its practices, the racist enemy is threatening not only the Palestinians and Arabs, but all of humanity.

Proceeding from these facts, the Jerusalem operation was carried out by struggler 'Umar Abu-Sarhan . During the operation, he instantly killed three Zionist settlers, including two Zionist soldiers and an officer from the so-called counterterrorism forces which were assigned by the Zionist enemy the task of killing Palestinians in cold blood and mutilating the bodies of Palestinians in the courtyard of the al-Haram al-Sharif on 8 October.

Struggler Abu-Sarhan said that the confrontation against the Zionists' determination to annihilate the Palestinian people, Judaize their cities and villages, and desecrate their sanctities will not be subject to any plans to rule out the Palestinian factor from the equation of peace, nor will it ignore the crimes of the Zionist enemy and the war that it is stepping up against the Palestinian people inside and outside Palestine.

The Jerusalem operation sent a signal to anyone used to procrastination and hiding himself, in vain, from Arab and international opinion, that the determination of Palestine and its revolutionaries always comes, like destiny, and can always decide the time, place, and aim that cannot be missed. We truly say that the heroic operation, like previous and subsequent ones, confirms that Jerusalem rejects the continuation of injustice and insists on being the cradle of justice and peace.

Last but not least, we tell the world: Yes, this world, with its international organizations and decisionmaking capitals, has missed many opportunities to carry out its responsibilities, preoccupying itself with trivial matters instead of dealing with the core of the issue. This world imagines that time will obliterate the essence and dimensions of the cause and cancel the Palestinian people's rights in their land and homeland as well as their right to self-determination.

Developments are accelerating to confirm that the continuation of Zionist occupation and terrorism will only increase the flames of war and will miss the real peace opportunities in the region and the world. We hope that the parties involved will soon be able to distinguish right from wrong. Meanwhile, we can say that the message sent by struggler Abu-Sarhan is only the first drop of rain and represents the independent Palestinian decisionmaking that has emerged from the Palestinian people's blood, and their wounded citizens, sufferings, and heroic deeds. It should be a lesson for anyone who lets himself be seduced into harming our people; whose arm is very long, whose knives are sharp, and whose stones are made of clay.

Al-Muzayyin Says Change in Gulf Position Soon

PM1810135290 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 14 Oct 90 p 6

[Interview with Sa'id al-Muzayyin, alias Abu-Hisham, "former Palestinian ambassador to "audi Arabia, member of the Islamic World Leag Constituent Assembly, and PLO representative to the League, " by Hasin al-Bunyan in Riyadh, date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Bunyan] What are the effects of the Gulf crisis on the Palestinian issue?

[Al-Muzayyin] None of the Arab and Islamic action issues has been as badly and directly affected as the Palestinian issue. This is because the Palestinian and Arab masses in Kuwait and the Gulf are among the principal forces supporting the Palestinian issue. This is in addition to the losses, both material and moral, in the Palestinian position itself. Furthermore, the world's preoccupation with the crisis has clearly affected the course of the intifadah and the Palestinian issue as a whole. The world public's view of our issues and rights has changed. Because of the crisis it may wonder whether or not we deserve our rights. I say that, by any standards, the crisis has had a negative impact on the Palestinian issue.

[Al-Bunyan] The Palestinian leadership adopted a position on the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait which shocked the people of the Gulf. Do you believe that there are gains from that position?

[Al-Muzayyin] I cannot imagine that there can be any gains for the Palestinian issue from that Arab tragedy. I believe that the biggest losers in it are the Palestinian cause itself and the Palestinian people. So how can there be any returns or gains to tempt [the Palestinian leadership] to take such a position. All that is happening reflects negatively on the Palestinian issue. I think that the Palestinian position, which I would describe as a Palestinian slip, resulted from long introductions in which all the Arab states and the Arab media participated, when they said that Iraq could overrun Israel and that it has achieved strategic parity with Israel's might. [passage omitted]

I regard the official Palestinian position as a grave mistake which has greatly affected the Palestinian issue, though some people have spoken out against that position. I expect, however, a change to occur in that position soon. We hope that there will be a backtracking in the

interests of rights, truth, and this nation's dignity, future, and reputation. [passage omitted]

[Al-Bunyan] Are you worried about the Palestinian position, and is there a change?

[Al-Muzayyin] I am not worried much about the Palestinian cause. I am worried about the Palestinian people. The Palestinian cause has its own "defences" which cannot weaken because, as a movement, the cause has its own capabilities that can maintain its thrust until victory day, God willing. But the danger is that the Palestinian people could suffer as a result of some of its leaders' practices. Obviously, with the succession of generations, the Palestinian cause must correct its course and that of those following it. The cause will pass those moving in the opposite direction. We have lived with this cause for 45 years. We were between 10 and 15 years old when we began to understand the course of our cause. So any politician or conspirator who plots against the cause will be crushed by the cause itself, because it is a sacred cause: Truth is clear and falsehood is clear, just like day and night. Therefore no one can tamper with or derail that cause. It has the inherent capability to crush him and continue to advance until liberation day, God willing.

[Al-Bunyan] But you have not answered my question: Is there any intention to change the Palestinian position?

[Al-Muzayyin] From what I have seen and heard through contacts inside and outside, the balance is in favor of confronting and rejecting the conspiracy. This is not at the level of the masses—because at this level the matter is already decided—but at the Palestinian leaderships level. Pressures are being exerted, the story is unclear, and matters are being approached in the wrong way. But the picture has now started to become clearer from the Palestinian viewpoint because the people have begun to wake up. It is not a matter of the withdrawal of foreign forces. Had it not been for the unjustified Iraqi attack, the foreign forces would not have come.

I believe that something will be achieved in this regard within a matter of weeks because the negative aspect of the Palestinian leadership—and at the same time the very thing that will eventually eliminate this negative situation—is the fact that representation of the PLO is confined to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], the Democratic Front [for the Liberation of Palestine], the Arab Front, Fatah, and the Communist Party. Whereas the masses of the Palestinian people and the movements that emerged after the intifadah are represented. When [PFLP leader] George Habash speaks, he speaks as leader of a Palestinian front, but when other leaderships that are not part of the PLO structure speak, their statements are not taken into consideration.

I believe that there will be an important change in the days ahead because the conspiracy is now under siege. In fact it is now dying. The conspirators' great ambitions have now diminished, and now they just want to save their skins in this predicament. If some Palestinian leaderships have acted rashly, there is still a chance to reassess the Palestinian position. Besides, the influencing factors which produced the Palestinian position have now started to become clear and have lost their magical effect: There is no liberation of Palestine; there is no army which has achieved parity with Israel's might, and there is not even a binary chemical weapon. In fact, the Arab might has been squandered and is now under the command of foreign might. When the first strike is launched, everything will end. All this is now clear to many of those who acted when the outlook was unclear.

Everyone was dragged into adopting a rash position whose implications were not examined so as to spare the Palestinian march obstacles that could reflect negatively on the Palestinian cause. Through AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT I appeal to my brothers in the Palestinian action march to take into account the sacrosanct nature of their cause, its place in the nation's heart, and their people's need for stability, security, and peace with the Arab nation's sons, in order to secure an internal front to protect their rear and to be able to continue the march protected and backed by all their nation's sons. [passage omitted]

'Arafat, Nigerian Envoy Discuss Gulf, Palestine

JN2310103490 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1930 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Brother leader President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has met in Tunis with Mr. (Ibrahim Zakari), minister of state for external affairs and personal envoy of Nigerian President General Ibrahim Babangida. The envoy handed Mr. 'Arafat a message from the Nigerian president on the region's events and the latest developments in the Palestine question, especially after the Jerusalem massacre perpetrated by the occupation authorities at al-Haram al-Sharif and the Security Council resolution on this massacre.

The Nigerian minister conveyed to brother Abu-'Ammar the Nigerian president's warm greetings and his condolences on the martyrdom of the massacre victims. He also expressed Nigeria's solidarity and sympathy. Brother 'Abu-'Ammar conveyed through the minister his warm greetings and best wishes to His Excellency President Babangida and his thanks for his positions and solidarity. He expressed appreciation for the Nigerian president's efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis.

Brother Abu-'Ammar explained Palestinian ideas, initiatives, and efforts exerted to reach a peaceful Arab solution to the Gulf crisis within the international framework, and stressed the importance of avoiding the military option and war, as this option would be disastrous and have destructive effects not only on the region but also on many countries and nations in all fields—political, economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian. Brother leader president Abu-'Ammar analyzed the deteriorating situation in the occupied territories as a result of Israel's escalating its iron-fist policy and the continuous violation of the Islamic and Christian sanctities by

the occupation authorities and Israeli settlers, the latest of such violations being the appalling 8 October massacre in Jerusalem.

Portrait of East Jerusalem Leader Al-Husayni

AU1910130390 Hamburg DIE ZEIT in German 19 Oct 90 p 2

[Report by Fredy Gsteiger on Faysal al-Husayni, PLO leader in the occupied territories: "Forgiving Amid a Sea of Hatred"]

[Text] The Palestinian owner of a small oriental restaurant right at the entrance to Bethlehem welcomes his guests with a handshake, even if they are Israelis. Then he continues to tenderize the mutton with great energy and considerable noise. When he has finished, he starts a conversation which—as is usual in Israel and the occupied territories—quickly focuses on politics. The owner of the restaurant makes no secret of his ardent admiration for Saddam Husayn. As a matter of fact his wife, who was born in Central America, is afraid of a war in the Middle East and would like to emigrate. "This, however, is out of the question. We will stay and fight." Of course, he would personally join a war led by Saddam. He would also sacrifice his five children "for the freedom of the Palestinians." His eldest son is 11 years old and his youngest has just turned two.

Faysal Husayni has little in common with hotheads like the restaurant owner, even if he meets such people every day. Whereas the PLO leadership in Tunis—which recently may be seen mainly in Baghdad—noisily supports Saddam, the 50-year-old leader of the Palestinians in the occupied territories and the architect of the intifadah vehemently condemns the occupation of Kuwait. He wants to be a "peace activist." Naturally, he also denies that he is the leader of the 1.5 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. "I am an analyzer." He knows how risky it is to claim leadership here: On the one hand because of the vigilant Israelis, but on the other because the PLO leaders jealously guard their power monopoly.

Contrary to Husayni, who has remained true to his principles, the official PLO representatives have betrayed their claim to leadership. Instead of influencing public opinion, they join the Palestinian masses in their praise for Saddam. Husayni also reaped small thanks for his continued search for a reconciliation with Israel. Extremists from his own ranks are accusing him of being a naive victim of pro-Western propaganda. The Israeli security forces detained him last week during the massacres on the Temple Mount, despite the fact that he tried to exert a moderating influence on the bloodthirsty representatives of both sides. The fact that Yitzhak Shamir's ruling government in Jerusalem rejects any talks with Husayni shows how little it is interested in dialogue.

Husayni knows Israeli prisons. He has spent nearly half of the past three years in jail. There he learned Hebrew, with which he often surprises Israeli partners in talks. Amnesty International has described him as a conscientious prisoner. The numerous accusations leveled against him are based on the finding of weapons in his house; and he was accused of inciting unrest, of PLO membership, of financing intifadah activities, and of drafting a Palestinian peace proposal—the first that accepted Israel's right to existence. However, he has never been convicted.

Husayni's file is classified "top secret." Even his lawyer is denied access to the alleged evidence. The heart of the intifadah may beat in Hebron, its fist may strike in Nablus, but its head is in east Jerusalem. Its head is Faysal al-Husayni who cooperates with moderate thinkers such as Sari Nusaybah at Bir Zeit University [spelling as published], and Hanna Siniora, editor of the paper AL-FAJR. Contrary to these rather colorless figures, Husayni is a charismatic person. He grows with every imprisonment.

His impressive house on the Mount of Olives in East Jerusalem is surrounded by a high fence. It is a meeting place for Palestinian activists, intellectuals, and until recently, leftist Israeli politicians and journalists were to be seen there. The visitors are usually offered coffee in tiny cups. The telephone is constantly ringing. No matter how vehemently Faysal al-Husayni denies it: From his home—and recently also from the abandoned "National Palace Hotel," where, equipped with a radio telephone, he set up his headquarters—he pulls the strings of the Palestinian resistance.

Faysal al-Husayni comes from one of the noblest and most influential Palestinian families. His father, 'Abd al-Qadir Husayni, died in 1948 in the struggle against the Zionists. The chief mufti of Jerusalem, al-Hajj Amin al-Husayni, who even cooperated with the Nazis because of his hatred of the Jews, was an uncle of his. Faysal al-Husayni, however, rejects hatred in politics. When he was released from his penultimate "administrative arrest," Israeli right-wing extremists waited for him in front of the prison door. They molested him, spat at him, and cursed him. "Nothing can stop the peace process," he replied.

Since Husayni, who was born in Baghdad, moved to the West Bank after completing his studies in Cairo and at the Syrian military academy, he has persistently been trying to create a climate that allows the establishment of a Palestinian state. In these efforts he was neither taken in by the Israelis, who wanted to build him up as moderate counterweight to the PLO, nor was he impressed by the inflammatory speeches of Palestinian activists. He is an intellectual who plays with medium tones, which is very rare in politicians who are at the same time considered charismatic local heroes. Faysal al-Husayni mistrusts people who talk big. It is much more important for him to choose the right words. In discussions, he speaks in a soft and emphatic way and chooses his words carefully. He seems calm and behaves in a manner as if he had all the time in the world. Recently, however, he has not been able to hide a certain impatience and tiredness after all the incessant debates within his own ranks, which often last until the

early hours of the morning. Also, his biting humor flares up less often. Two years ago he stated: "In two to three years we will have a Palestinian state." This period has nearly elapsed now, and he knows how distant such a goal still is.

Despite the fact that he shows little interest in mass rallies, his black leather jacket, his open shirt, and his elegant creased trousers have become his trademark. He does not want to be cheered, but he wants people to listen to him. The solution that he suggests as the only realistic one to his compatriots is not suited to arouse storms of enthusiasm. It is too much of a compromise. Faysal al-Husayni does not indulge in dreams. He is interested in what can actually be achieved, which in his view is the creation of two states. He does not think much of the demands put forth by some PLO leaders to throw the Jews into the Mediterranean. Israel, Palestine, and Jordan should form a confederation of states and cooperate closely in the economic sphere. He sees Jerusalem as the undivided capital of both Israel and Palestine.

For many Israelis Husayn is the acceptable face of the PLO. He is particularly popular among Israel's left. "The name of the game is influencing public opinion," he claims. "In the first year of the intifadah it was important to boost the consciousness and confidence of the Palestinians. In the second year, we focused on public opinion abroad. In the third year we wanted to win over a majority of Israelis for our ideas. We have made good progress. But then Saddam Husayn invaded Kuwait amid the applause of numerous Palestinians. Now we must again start from the beginning," he says without any illusion. During his recent visits to Moscow and Washington, he discovered how difficult the struggle will become on all fronts.

However, Faysal al-Husayni hesitates to blame recent negative developments merely on the PLO leadership and the Palestinian people, and does not openly admit his irritation over their reactions. He asks for understanding: "The Middle East is a jungle. Until recently, there was only one tiger in this jungle: Israel. Now we have another tiger: Iraq. Is it not understandable that the helpless are glad that the two tigers are fighting with each other now?" Still, he believes that the Palestinians are once more supporting the wrong side.

However, Faysal al-Husayni is not a man who knuckles under. "Moderate people would long have ceased to exist in this country if they were discouraged so easily." He still believes in a peaceful solution but hints that he does not unconditionally support renunciation of violence. "We are not afraid of using weapons. Especially our young fighters are behaving in an increasingly determined and aggressive way." He is confident that they can be controlled and speaks of individual actions in connection with atrocities among Palestinians. The Israelis are probably also aware of the calming influence that Faysal al-Husayni exerts, otherwise they would already have expelled him. "The solution that we must achieve will be less bitter if the path toward it is not flooded by a sea of blood. We would prefer the creation of a Palestinian state with the consent of Israel. If this is not possible, however, we will still achieve our goal."

The situation is tense. The Israeli right-wing government is well established. It is becoming increasingly difficult to dissuade the Palestinians from an uprising with the full use of weapons. "We are trying, however." If Faysal al-Husayni says "we," he means both the PLO leadership in Tunis and the local leaders. Are they still speaking, however, with one voice? PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who has probably never really been a moderate in his mind, is already deviating from the course of reconciliation. Faysal al-Husayni repeatedly denies that there is a rift between the PLO cadres abroad and the local leadership in the occupied territories. "We need each other. I see the trees here. They see the whole forest." At the moment 'Arafat and his supporters see the forest in flames. A purgatory in the Middle East would have a cleansing effect in their view and would open a chance for new developments. Faysal al-Husayni, who watches developments in a stubbornly optimistic way, still sees healthy and solid trees and young plants. He wants to save them from the blaze.

Egypt

Paper Reports Arrest of New Terrorist Group

NC2210061390 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, 21 Oct (MENA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH reports that Egyptian Security Forces have arrested a new terrorist group that was preparing to commit a terrorist crime against some targets with the intent of destabilizing Egypt. In its 22 October issue, AL-JUMHURIYAH says that initial information indicates this group has no connection with the terrorist group that assassinated People's Assembly Speaker Dr. Rif'at al-Mahjub and his bodyguards.

AL-JUMHURIYAH notes that the security forces are continuing to tighten the noose on terrorists and to uncover the hideouts of infiltrators who are working from a plan to strike at Egypt. Meanwhile, Interior Minister Muhammad 'Abd-al-Halim Abu-Musa today received the forensic laboratory's final report on the crime involving the assassination of Dr. al-Mahjub and five of his bodyguards.

Paper Views U.S. Stand on Jerusalem Events

NC2210181390 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0620 GMT 14 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, 14 Oct (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AHRAM says that the Palestinian challenge has proved to Israeli terrorism that repression cannot destroy the people's will and that the Palestinian people, who ignited their intifadah some 34 months ago, are not about to remain silent over Israel's occupation and its aggressive practices against the Palestinian sons.

In its editorial today, AL-AHRAM stresses that the ugly massacre carried out by Israeli troops against the defenseless sons of the Palestinian people on the steps of the al-Aqsa Mosque reaffirmed that the Israeli leadership persists in its errors and unrealistic thinking. The Israeli leadership, the paper adds, continues its disrespect of human rights and challenges the international order at a time when the entire world endeavors to safeguard respect for this order in cooperation with the two superpowers.

AL-AHRAM goes on to say in its editorial that the international reaction to the Israeli massacre was disappointing to the Arabs and Muslims. The paper adds that since the whole world appreciates the U.S. and Western positions on the Gulf crisis, which call for respecting international law and order and the people's right to self-determination, the U.S. Administration must adopt the same position concerning Palestine in order not to lose the confidence of the Arabs. There can be no stability in this area without a fundamental solution to all explosive issues, foremost among which is the Palestinian issue. This issue can only be solved if the Palestinian people are allowed to exercise their right to self-determination.

Concluding its editorial, AL-AHRAM says that Arab confidence in and respect for the United States—at both the official and popular levels—would have been strengthened had the United States been of serious help in this regard.

Commentary on Israeli Position on UN Committee

AL-JUMHURIYAH Regrets Stand

NC2210172890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, 16 Oct (MENA)—AL-JUMHURIYAH regrets the Israeli Government's decision not to cooperate with a UN committee investigating the Jerusalem massacre. The paper says this decision has disappointed the international community and constitutes a new challenge to its will.

In an editorial today, the paper says this intransigent stand will add new complications, although effective measures by the Israeli authorities are needed to protect the Palestinian people.

The paper adds that the UN Security Council must press ahead in implementing its unanimous resolution and adopting appropriate measures to protect the Palestinians, and Islamic and Christian sanctities. It adds that the council is also urged to shoulder its responsibilities in seeking a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict separately from the international efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis, in view of the fact that Israel and the Arab countries are parties to the Middle East crisis.

In conclusion, the paper asks if the UN Security Council is capable of imposing its international will on a member of the United Nations, particularly since indications show that the Jerusalem massacre is a criminal action that cannot be justified.

Cairo Radio Calls It 'Defiance'

NC2210184090 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 17 Oct 90

[Commentary by Ibrahim Wahbi: "Israel Defies the International Community"]

[Text] Israel has rejected yet another UN resolution, one which condemned it for killing 33 worshippers and wounding hundreds of others at the al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. Israel has also rejected a resolution calling for the dispatch of a fact-finding mission to Jerusalem, tossing it onto the same scrapheap where it has tossed the resolutions issued by the UN Security Council since the 1947 partition resolution, to Resolution 242 of 1976, including Resolution 338 of 1973. Israel has rejected the resolution

that unanimously condemned the massacre of the worshippers in al-Aqsa Mosque and Israel's disrespect for holy places and religious practices. Israel has thus added a new page to the history of the massacres committed at Qibyah, Dayr Yasin, Khan Yunis, and Gaza.

This means that Israel is wrecking all remaining chances at achieving peace, despite the fact that the United States was among those approving the condemnation resolution and it had warned Israel against rejecting this resolution. Israel has become accustomed to defying the world and rejecting the existence of the United Nations. Indirectly, it does not recognize the United Nations, so much so that one of its senior officials, Ari'el Sharon, officially stated his rejection of the UN Security Council resolution. He said that Jerusalem has been the capital of the Jewish state for 3,000 years. He then added defiantly: That alone is stronger than any resolution adopted by any organization or forum anywhere in the world. Sharon thus regards Israel as being above all else.

The features of Israeli defiance have been clear despite the sinister and abominable nature of the crime, which was stained with the blood of the more than 30 unarmed civilian worshippers who were martyred. Despite this, Israel responded to the UN Security Council by taking a measure that further complicated the problem. Israel officially declared that efforts will be intensified to expand the settlement of emigrant Jews in Jerusalem and that special plans will be drawn up to build at least 40,000 housing units, most of them on land seized in 1976. Sharon said that this measure is the best response to those who have doubts about the status of Jerusalem as the eternal capital of the Jews.

That was the Israeli response to the UN resolution and indeed, to the stand of the United States which had, two weeks earlier, obtained written assurances from Israel that it would not settle Soviet Jews beyond the green line; namely, the pre-1976 line in Jerusalem.

On this basis, the U.S. State Department released the text of the letter Israeli Foreign Minister David Levi sent to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker two weeks ago, in which David Levi pledged that Soviet Jews will not be settled in east Jerusalem. In return, Israel obtained guarantees for a $400 million loan. In response to this Israeli letter, the text of which was published yesterday, U.S. Secretary of State Baker said that he expects Israel to honor its pledges.

This is the method by which the international community and the entire world are challenged, and the rights of mankind and of the peoples are defied. In our opinion, the UN Security Council resolution condemning Israel and calling for the dispatch of a fact-finding mission to Jerusalem means many things. It is an official recognition of the fact that Israel violates the religious sanctities and pursues the path of bloodshed. It also means that the United Nations does not recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. Finally, it means that the Security Council will not allow Israel to exploit the situation in the Gulf to achieve its goals.

However, the question remains: How will the United Nations and the major states in the East and the West react to Israel's rejection of the UN resolutions? It is being said that the Israeli cabinet is divided over its stand toward the United Nations and the United States. We have, however, become used to such ploys as fabricated splits and bogus crises. When interest dies down and the storm passes, Israel resumes liquidating the Palestinians and the Security Council adopts new resolutions which Israel tosses on the same scrapheap as the earlier ones.

Paper Says Linking Gulf, Palestine Issues Wrong

NC2210154290 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0435 GMT 20 Oct 90

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, AL-JUMHURIYAH writes that Cairo played an important role in restoring accord within the Arab League on the basis of its Arab responsibilities. The Arab League member countries now know for sure that it is wrong to link the Gulf crisis and its solution to the Palestinian issue. The first is an Arab issue that arose following a specific act by the Iraqi regime, which attacked an Arab country. The second is the primary, pivotal issue whose two sides are the Arabs and the Israelis. Its solution requires Arab solidarity, constant coordination, an understanding of regional and international changes, a sound dealing with the new world system, and the mobilization of the Arabs' strength and resources. Unfortunately, this can be achieved only after solving the Gulf crisis through Iraqi withdrawal and the restoration of legitimacy.

Air Force To Join Saudi Multinational Force

NC1710181190 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 Oct 90

[Text] For the first time since the start of the Gulf crisis, it was announced in Cairo today that the Egyptian Air Force will participate with the multinational forces in Saudi Arabia.

In reporting the announcement today, the Cairo newspaper AL-AKHBAR cited the commander of King Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Airbase as saying that the Egyptian aircraft and Air Force troops will arrive in Saudi Arabia either tomorrow or the next day.

Morocco

Kuwaiti Minister of State Visits Rabat

Arrives 19 October

LD1910224890 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived this evening

in Rabat with a message for His Majesty King Hassan II. He was welcomed at Rabat-Sale airport by Minister of State Moulay Ahmed Alaoui, the Kuwaiti ambassador in Rabat, and a number of officials.

Delivers Message to King Hassan

LD2010210590 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] King Hassan II received at the Royal Court at Skhiret this afternoon the Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad al-Sabah, who was accompanied by Kuwaiti Ambassador 'Abd al-Muhsin al-Harun. The meeting was also attended by Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdellatif Filali.

During the audience, the Kuwaiti envoy delivered to the king a private message from the Kuwaiti Amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Says No Territorial Concessions

LD2110124990 Rabat MAP in English 0900 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Rabat, 21 Oct (MAP)—Mr Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, stressed that the resolution of the Gulf crisis can only be achieved through the implementation of the UN and Arab League resolutions, which specify in particular the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of legitimacy to the country.

The Kuwaiti official who is currently visiting Morocco said in a meeting with the press in Rabat that his country would not concede a single inch of its territories and insists on the restoration of the situation to what it was before the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. [passage omitted]

On the other hand, the Kuwaiti official announced the beginning of reactivating the Kuwaiti financial and economic institutions abroad. He announced in particular that Kuwaiti airways will resume its voyages to Europe and America during the coming weeks after it resumed its voyages from Cairo to a number of Gulf countries. In this context he recalled that the Iraqis have confiscated 15 aeroplanes of the Kuwaiti Airways fleet. [passage omitted]

Views Talks With Hassan; Departs

LD2110133190 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Excerpts] The Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad al-Sabah, left Morocco this morning afer a visit during which he was received by his majesty. [passage omitted]

At the airport, the Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs made the following statement to the radio:

[Begin al-Sabah recording] In the name of God, the merciful and compassionate. I was honored yesterday afternoon by meeting HM King Hassan II, king of fraternal Morocco. I handed his majesty a written message from his brother His Highness Shaykh Jabi al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait. The message was an exchange of opinions [as heard] about what is currently happening in our region.

Frankly, HM King Hassan II adopted honorable and historic stances toward the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. [passage omitted] [end recording]

South Africa's De Klerk on Working Visit

Receives 'Red-Carpet' Welcome

MB2210131490 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1314 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Report by Mark van der Velden]

[Text] Rabat, Morocco, Oct 22 SAPA—The state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk's arrival on Monday [22 October] at the Moroccan capital Rabat was highlighted by a formal red-carpet welcome. Mr. de Klerk was formally welcomed by the Moroccan Prime Minister, Mr. Azzedine Laraki, before he left for an audience with King Hassan II later in the afternoon.

A number of Moroccan cabinet ministers and representatives of the Army as well as the government of Rabat Province waited on the tarmac as Mr. de Klerk's chartered aircraft taxied to a halt in front of the airport's VIP centre at about noon. The SA [South African] flag was flown alongside Morocco's five-pointed star flag, and the two states' national anthems were played, after which Mr. de Klerk inspected a guard of honour.

The state president, accompanied by Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. Pik Botha, is on a working visit to Morocco—marking the first top level contact between South Africa and the Arab world since World War II.

Meets With King Hassan

LD2210205290 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Hassan II, flanked by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed and His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rachid, this evening at the Royal Palace in Rabat received the president of the Republic of South Africa, Frederik de Klerk, who is currently paying a working visit to our country.

The South African president is accompanied by Foreign Minister R.F. Botha; the director general of [the South African] foreign Ministry; and the director general of the Presidency. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Libyan Leader Al-Qadhdhafi Visits Khartoum

Arrives 20 October

LD2010130290 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Excerpts] the brother leader of the revolution arrived in Khartoum this afternoon on a visit to fraternal Sudan. [passage omitted]

The brother leader of the revolution is accompanied by Col. Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation and the secretary in charge of integration affairs with fraternal Sudan.

Meets With Al-Bashir

LD2010181390 Tripoli JANA in English 1657 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Khartoum, al Tomor [October] 20, Jamahirya News Agency—A working session took place this afternoon between the leader of the revolution and general Umar Hasan al-Bashir, the president of the Sudanese Revolutionary Command Council.

Present at the session were Colonel Abu Bakir Yunis Jabir, the secretary of the People's Committee for the People's Bureau of Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation and the secretary for the affairs of integration with Sudan. Also present on the Sudanese side were members of the Sudanese Revolutionary Command Council, members of the government and the secretary-general of the General Secretariat of Integration between great Jamahirya and Sudan.

Revolution Model Praised

LD2110051190 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, Revolutionary Command Council [RCC] chairman in fraternal Sudan, made a statement to journalists in which he said: We are happy today at the visit of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great al-Fatih revolution, and his accompanying delegation.

This visit is an honor for us in Khartoum. We have been waiting a long time for it to happen. Everyone has been looking forward to this visit. We welcome the leader of the al-Fatih revolution: The revolution that has shouldered the worries of the Arab nation and Arab unity for the past 20 years. It has never stopped, not even during the periods of Arab setback; it still carries this torch. We have followed the same road. We pray to God that he crown our efforts to realize the merger of the two countries with a comprehensive unity and model Arab unity. This integration will become a base for the Arab nation to rally around.

He said: We celebrate a number of occasions these days. We celebrate the popular October Revolution [overthrow of the Ibrahim 'Abbud military government in Sudan]. We also celebrate the arrival of the leader of the revolution in the great Jamahiriyah. God willing, we will celebrate the receipt of the recommendations of the dialogue conference on the political system, which approved the system of the popular congresses and which will be the dominant system in Sudan. This is the stage at which we promised to hand over authority to the Sudanese people. The implementation steps have begun. If we calculated the time it will take, we would find it to be a very brief period.

He said: We were more fortunate than the Libyan revolution, because we have found before us a model that has helped us great deal to reach our decisions.

In the meanwhile, a working session took place between the brother leader of the revolution and Lt. Gen. 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, the RCC chairman in fraternal Sudan. The session was attended by Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the brother secretary of the popular committee for the people's bureau of external liaison and international cooperation, and the brother secretary of Sudanese integration affairs. On the Sudanese side it was attended by members of the RCC in Sudan, members of the government, and the secretary-general of the general secretariat on merger between the great Jamahiriyah and Sudan.

Attends Political System Conference

EA2110210090 Khartoum National Unity Radio in English 1430 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] The chairman of the RCC, [Revolution Command Council], Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, addressed this afternoon the closing session of the national dialogue conference on the political system. In his speech, Gen. 'Umar pointed to the great occasion of 21st October Revolution and the participation of the Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Meanwhile, the Libyan leader described the gathering as a historic event coinciding with the October Revolution, which is not only to the Sudanese but to the whole Arab nation. [sentence as heard]. He said October Revolution is a people's revolution against military dictatorship. Al-Qadhdhafi referred to the April uprising revolution against imperialism, reactionary backwardness and fascism. He added that the Sudanese masses are the real examples of the revolutionary masses all over the world, pointing that the development of the nation is a national responsibility. He pointed today big challenges facing the Arab nation, saying that those challenges can be overcome by joint efforts of the Arab people.

In another development, the chairman of the conference, Brigadier 'Uthman Ahmad Hasan, described the gathering as a shura conference in restoring powers to the masses. He said that the recommendations of the conference are the recommendations of the people. Brig.

Uthman pointed out that the former political leadership imposed themselves through elections. [sentence as heard]

Earlier, the rapporteur of the conference, Colonel Hasan Hamadayn, presented the recommendations of the national dialogue conference on the political system. The conference adopted the confederal system as the political system in the Sudan to guarantee the popular participation of the masses.

Addresses Conference; Backs Union

EA2210160690 Khartoum SUNA in English 1007 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Khartoum 22 October (SUNA)—Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi yesterday called for an immediate unity between his country, Sudan and Egypt. Al-Qadhdhafi, who was speaking at the closing session of the national dialogue conference on the political system, said the three countries possess all elements of unity and should therefore not hesitate in setting up unity.

Sudan, Egypt and Libya constituted the heart, the main body of the Arab nation, the movement of which controls the movement of the other Arab states, al-Qadhdhafi said. Sudan, Egypt and Libya are rich in natural as well as human resources and if unified, they can form a powerful state, said the Libyan leader, whose speech was punctuated by cheers and slogans demanding Arab unity.

This is a turning point in the Arab history in which the Sudanese people have opted for the people's power which was heralded by Libya, al-Qadhdhafi said, referring to the conference's recommendation of the people's congresses as the future form of government in Sudan.

He cast aside as nonsense the parliamentary, partisan and government systems, saying that all those have become obsolete and have given way to his Jamahiriya style in which, he said, there was no room for government and in which the people run their own affairs all by themselves through their people's committees and congresses.

He hailed and expressed his full support to the Revolution Command Council Chairman General al-Bashir and his aides who he described as the first Sudanese leadership that opted to devolve power to the people by choosing the popular power which is to be exercised by the people's committees and congresses.

He predicted that one day the Jamahiriya system and the people's power would be practised all over the world. Col. al-Qadhdhafi has pledged to try to convince rebel leader John Garang to terminate his rebellion now that a Jamahiriya system would be established in Sudan. He disclosed that the leader of the rebellion movement was a member of the Libyan-based international revolutionary organisation which advocated people's power to prevail in the world. He said he would contact Col. Garang and see whether [he] is still member of that organisation and if so he would ask him to end his rebellion against the Khartoum government after it had chosen the people's power system.

"We have armed and trained Garang when he was fighting toppled President Ja'far Numayri", he said. He said he had stopped supplying Garang with arms and that if Garang was not to join the masses of the Sudan then his government would have not [as received] choice but to turn against Garang in support of the Sudanese people and government. President al-Qadhdhafi declared that demonstrations would be staged in all Arab countries as of the first day of next January peacefully demanding abolition of borderlines separating the Arab countries from one another.

Tunisia

Former Intelligence Service Chief Sentenced

LD1910191390 Paris International Service in French 1230 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] In Tunisia, the former boss of the intelligence services, Mohammed Larbi Mahjoubi, has been sentenced to four years in prison by a military tribunal in Tunis. The trial took place in complete secrecy.

Early this month the Interior Ministry denied that the inquiry was linked with a possible Israeli spy ring, but it is rumored that it concerns espionage, perhaps in favor of the Israeli Mosad.

Bahrain

Prime Minister Says Saddam Will Pay 'Dearly'

JN2210170290 Manama WAKH in English 1540 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Jeddah, Oct 22 (GNA)—Bahrain Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah said that world cohesion regarding the cause of Kuwait will not be affected, adding that the matter is not only concerning Kuwait but the whole world.

In an interview published today in the Kuwaiti daily AL-SIYASAH, the Bahraini premier said the cause of Kuwait is in the core of world interests, relations and laws which should protect them all.

He stressed that the cause of Kuwait will not last long and all evidences show that Iraq will withdraw from Kuwait by peaceful or military means, but that requires some time.

On world attitude towards Iraq following its August 2 invasion of Kuwait, the Bahraini preimer said that "Saddam Husayn will pay very dearly and the Iraqi people will be affected because of his political misleading. The world does not permit being bitten twice, and Saddam had bitten the world more than once."

He praised the wise move of the Kuwaiti leadership in protecting its people and state.

On the tour of H.H. [his highness] the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, the Bahraini premier said the tour comes to enhance world cohesion which supported Kuwait's right and legitimacy adding that the tour will also reach great success.

Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah affirmed that the cordial feelings expressed towards Kuwait will "strengthen our coming stands which will be different when Iraq withdraws from Kuwait by peace or by war."

While hailing the stands of many of the Arab countries describing them as "generous, honourable and unforgettable," he said that there were countries which had bad attitudes, and "their peoples will settle the account with them before we do."

Meanwhile, Shaykh Khalifah affirmed that the Kuwaiti people's conference has cut in a practical and civilized way the road on Saddam Husayn's illusions in exploiting the atmosphere of free opinion in Kuwait.

The Bahraini Prime Minister affirmed that the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait showed that we in the Gulf Cooperation Council have become facing many changes to be perceived and upon which act after the end of the occupation.

He said that topping those changes is the conviction that the right is the strength, "thus we are obliged to concentrate and deepen our cooperation, and create among us unified military industries, a unified strength and a unified military move backed by a feeling that the dangers come suddenly and might backfire."

Kuwait

Iraqi Forces Detain Seven More British Citizens

LD2210124390 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1228 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Iraqi forces in Kuwait have detained seven more Britons, the Foreign Office announced today. The latest detentions, for which a spokesman said details were not available, bring the number held in the occupied country to 83. It is understood that the seven, all men, are being held in the Regency Hotel to await transfer to Baghdad. The number of Britons remaining in Kuwait is now put at 650. In Iraq there are thought to be around 800 British nationals of whom 304 are in detention. The Foreign Office said of the latest detentions: "It is illegal and deplorable like all the others." Foreign Office sources were today quick to refute suggestions that any British national would find themselves in financial difficulty as a result of being kept in Iraq. It is understood that around 1.75 million pounds sterling has been spent on helping Britons in Iraq since the occupation of Kuwait in early August. This sum is split betwen hotel bills for those detained as "guests" of the Iraqi government, air tickets to help those who have been allowed to leave and the costs of convoys between Kuwait and Iraq. It is understood the government's policy has been to help out financially anyone who has run out of money. Many of those held in hotels are staying in some luxury and facing large bills. An undisclosed number of these bills are having to be picked up by Britain. "Our ambassador has absolutely no choice. We simply can't let those Brits get thrown out on the street and we can't let them go hungry," said one source.

Cabinet Rejects Partial Iraqi Withdrawal

LD2210122290 London KUNA in Arabic 0940 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Paris, 22 Oct, (KUNA)—The amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, commences a visit to France today during which he will hold talks with President Francois Mitterrand about the crisis of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. [passage omitted]

The amir's visit to France comes at the same time as a statement by the Kuwaiti Cabinet in which the cabinet reiterates its rejection of any initiatives concerning mediations in or solutions of the crisis of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait which does not include full implementaion of the related Arab and international resolutions.

All these resolutions condemn the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and call for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi forces from all Kuwaiti territories,

and stress their support for the restoration of legitimate Kuwaiti authorities to their constitutional duties in Kuwait.

The statement stresses Kuwait's "full" commitment to implementation of "all" the aforementioned resolutions and expresses its belief that "the whole world is now more solid in facing up to the aggressive Iraqi regime."

It seems the Kuwaiti statement was issued in reply to recent news reports that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has shown readiness to withdraw from Kuwait on condition that Iraq retains two Kuwaiti islands at the top of the Gulf and a border strip which includes the Rumaylah oil field.

The news reports that something like that was conveyed to a Soviet envoy who visited Baghdad earlier this month and conferred with the Iraqi President, then he came out after the meeting to state that he was optimistic about the possibilities of reaching a settlement.

The envoy, Yevgeniy Primakov, stressed, however, during a recent tour, which included Rome, Paris, Washington, and London, that any settlement should "not include a reward for the aggressor" and should include the implementation of all the UN resolutions about the problem. [passage omitted]

Heir Apparent Meets French Assembly Group

LD2210151690 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1443 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Al-Ta'if, 22 Oct—The Kuwaiti deputy amir and heir apparent, Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, this afternoon received a French National Assembly delegation led by the chairman of the Assembly's National Defense and Armed Forces Committee, Jean-Michel Boucheron.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir, the defense minister; Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad, minister of state for foreign affairs; Dr. Badr Jasim Ya'qub; minister of state for Kuwaiti National Assembly affairs; and Habib Hasan Jawhar Hayat, minister of communications.

Amir Departs for Visit to France, UK

LD2210150390 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpts] His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, amir of the state of Kuwait, left Ta'if for Paris today on a tour of the French Republic and the United Kingdom.

His highness will meet in Paris with President Francois Mitterrand and in London with Mrs. Margaret Thatcher to examine the latest developments in the Persian Gulf situation. [passage omitted]

His Highness is accompanied by an official delegation, including: Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; 'Abd al-Rahman al-Utayqi, advisor at his highnesses' office; Finance Minister Shaykh 'Ali Khalifa al-'Adhbi; and a number of higher ranking officials at the Amir's office.

His highness is also accompanied by a press delegation, including KUNA Director Burjis Hamud al-Burjis and a number of chief editors of Kuwaiti papers.

Opposition Seeks To Diminish Al-Sabah Role

JN2010123890 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 20 Oct 90 Second Edition pp 1, 10

[Exclusive report from al-Shariqah]

[Text] Gulf diplomatic sources have revealed repeated attempts by Kuwaiti opposition figures to open dialogue channels with the Iraqi Government in isolation from the Kuwaiti government-in-exile, which uses Riyadh as a base for its information and investment activities.

Gulf sources, which asked to remain anonymous, said that the Iraqi Government rejected any dialogue, even with the Kuwaiti opposition, if Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait was to be part of the dialogue. Nevertheless, the Gulf sources added, the Kuwaiti opposition renewed its attempts at direct contact with various Iraqi elements in European and Arab states, especially following the recent Kuwaiti popular conference in Jeddah, yet it received no response from Iraq.

The Kuwaiti opposition, through several mediators, presented the ideas of establishing a republican regime for which a government-in-exile would be formed. According to Gulf sources, the Kuwaiti opposition offers presented through mediators went as far as to determine the name of the president; namely, 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Saqr, president of the Chamber of the Trade and Industry, although he participated in the conference in Jeddah and delivered a speech at the opening session. The Gulf sources added that the government of the Kuwaiti republic-in-exile would include well known names such as 'Abdallah al-Ghanim, Ahmad al-Khatib, Ahmad al-Sa'dun, Ahmad al- Rab'i, 'Abdallah al-Nafisi, and Muhammad Musa'id al-Salih in addition to two members of the al-Sabah family. The sources stressed that the al-Sabah family members have never held any ministerial post and that they are young graduates who sympathize with the opposition. The Gulf sources added that this list of names for the Kuwaiti republic is only one of several theoretical lists that are being circulated inside and outside Kuwait.

These sources said that there is a strong faction in the Saudi Government, led by Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal, whose personal relationship with Sabah al-Ahmad has been tense for many years, which has given its implicit approval to the Kuwaiti opposition to form a government-in-exile to prepare itself for political dialogue with the various sides.

It is noteworthy that the Kuwaiti opposition attended the conference in Jeddah and presented its demands with regard to the return to the constitution of 1962 and

the formation of a new government-in-exile which will decrease the absolute and central authority of al-Sabah family, which managed investments and bribed some Arab leaders, according to Dr. Ahmad al-Rab'i, who directs daily contacts with Gulf leftists from al-Shariqah.

Qatar

Diplomatic Relations Established With Romania

JN2210213090 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1205 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Doha, 22 Oct (WAKH)—Qatar and Romania have established diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of today.

The Qatari Foreign Ministry issued a statement in which it said that the governments of the two countries have decided to establish diplomatic relations between them out of their wish to strengthen friendship and cooperation between them.

The statement, which was published by THE QATARI NEWS AGENCY, expressed hope that this step would help develop international cooperation, consolidate world peace, and promote the noble principles of the Nonaligned Movement.

Saudi Arabia

Mubarak Addresses Egyptian Troops in Saudi Arabia

NC2210174590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Hafr al-Batin, 22 Oct (MENA)—Immediately upon arriving at the Hafr al-Batin area in northeastern Saudi Arabia, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held a closed meeting with General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib, minister of defense and war production, and Major General Muhammad 'Ali Bilal, commander of the Egyptian forces in Saudi Arabia. The president reviewed the military situation in general and the tasks of the Egyptian forces in working with the Saudi forces. The meeting lasted 15 minutes.

President Mubarak then met with the Egyptian forces. He started his speech to them by expressing Egypt's hope that the Gulf crisis would end without any bloodshed. He also hoped that Iraq would think deeply, review its calculations, and withdraw from Kuwait so that the latter could be restored as a sovereign Arab country.

President Mubarak ridiculed those who use Islam as a cover for their ideas, saying that Islam disowns such people. He added that Islam does not say that I can eat my neighbor if I feel strong.

The president went on to say: We are cooperating with many foreign and Arab countries. I say frankly that Saudi Arabia is the first and biggest country that supports us economically and even in many other fields. He added: This aid is not new but existed even when relations between us were frozen. I used to contact my brother, the custodian of the two holy mosques, in certain circumstances, and he never hesitated for a single moment in helping us.

President Mubarak spoke about the Arab League position. He said: Attempts are being made to thwart transfering the Arab League to Cairo, but they will fail because it will return to Cairo. This is indisputable. He added: The Arab foreign ministers have decided on this and there is no going back. President Mubarak went on to say that there are cheap maneuvers going on but these will fail, noting here that there are attempts in the Arab Maghreb Union to delay transferring the League's headquarters to Cairo.

President Mubarak then spoke about Egypt's debts. He stressed that Egypt's stand on the Gulf crisis is a principled one that has nothing to do with the U.S. decision to write off the debts. He added that the burden of the military debts cost Egypt around $100 million dollars a month.

On Egypt's debts to the fraternal Arab countries, President Mubarak said that they have been written off and considered as aid to Egypt. He stressed that Saudi Arabia this month alone contributed $500 million to establish new projects in Egypt that would create new job opportunities for Egyptians. He said: Egypt does not side with the left or with the right. We are brothers with everyone and we defend principles. Our relations with everybody are good. He added: Those who resort to cheap abuse are weak. He stressed that Iraq and Jordan's vituperations and their officials' statements are not true. He said: I want to reply with facts only. We challenge anyone to prove we are wrong.

President Mubarak described Egypt's relations with Morocco, Syria, and Libya as strong and those with Tunisia and Algeria as normal. He expressed his best wishes for the Syrian forces deployed near the Egyptians on the Saudi borders, wishing them success in defending legitimacy.

A soldier asked President Mubarak about the reports that Iraq has deployed Iraqi missiles in Sudan. President Mubarak stressed firmly in his reply: I will strike whoever deploys missiles on my borders. This is no joking matter. This will not take 24 hours. He added: We do not attack anyone, but our dignity does not accept bargaining.

President Mubarak stressed that the entire world is against the Iraqi president because the invasion of Kuwait was a cheap act. He said: Iraq's income from oil from 1975 until the invasion of Kuwait was more than $40 billion a year; it could have solved all its problems. He noted that although Egypt does not have such vast amounts of money, any Egyptian is living better than any Iraqi citizen despite the stifling economic crisis because here we have freedom while no one in Iraq dares utter a single word.

At the end of the meeting, President Mubarak wished the Egyptian forces success and expressed his hope to meet with them again.

Major General Muhammad 'Ali Bilal, commander of the Egyptian forces in Saudi Arabia, delivered a speech at the beginning of President Mubarak's meeting with the Egyptian troops, greeting Egypt's soldiers and protectors. He said: The Saudi command has drawn up our tasks and together we are capable of repelling anyone who thinks of invading these holy lands. Addressing President Mubarak, he said: You will remain our leader and teacher. He noted that President Mubarak's meeting today with the Armed Forces deployed in Saudi Arabia is the third of its kind; the first was when preparations were under way, and the second when the forces embarked for Saudi Arabia. Amid the tumultous cheers of the Egyptian Armed Forces, he presented President Mubarak with a copy of the holy Koran.

President Mubarak stressed to the Egyptian soldiers deployed in Saudi Arabia that they are in the holy land to force anyone who loses his mind to go back to his senses. He added that the Arab armies' deployment in Saudi Arabia was in line with Saddam Husayn's words when he said: "If, God forbid, Iraq commits aggression against another Arab country and moves its armies against another country, then the Arabs must move their armies against Iraq."

President Mubarak regretted the existence of Arab differences, saying: If any Arab country invaded another Arab country, then Egypt will take the same stand it took against Iraq's occupation of Kuwait. He stressed that the problem is an Arab-Arab one and that equating the issues of the Israeli occupation and the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait is wrong and that whoever insists on linking the two does not want a solution to either problem.

President Mubarak was received at the meeting with a storm of applause and chanting during which the soldiers shouted: "Long live Egypt. Long live Mubarak."

Holds Talks With King Fahd

LD2310004690 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2230 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpt] King Fahd Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, and His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, this evening held a meeting at the royal office in Al-Salam Palace. [passage omitted]

Mubarak, Fahd on Iraq

LD2210223790 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1816 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Statements by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud on 22 October at Jeddah's King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz International Airport in response to questions from unidentified Saudi television correspondent—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified correspondent] How important does your excellency consider your meeting with your brother, the custodian of the two holy mosques within the framework of the constant coordination beween the two fraternal countries and under the present conditions?

[Mubarak] I wish to say that coordination between my brother the custodian of the two holy mosques and myself has never stopped for one moment, even when relations between our two countries were frozen. The coordination is not the result of the current period but goes back a long way. Since I assumed the presidency—and even before that—my relations with the custodian of the two holy mosques have been consistent.

Thus the coordination has been consistent and is not the result of the current conditions. However, these conditions have enhanced this coordination. This is because we are all defending a principle.

We are not transgressing on anyone. We hope the Arab atmosphere is clear. We have always worked for that, and the custodian of the two holy mosques has always helped me in this regard. We have done much in this respect.

But when the aggression took place, I was really shocked. I do not believe that there was any true Arab who was not shocked by this aggression, particularly as the Iraqi president repeatedly said on many occasions that we must be brothers, that we must not interfere in each other's internal affairs, and so and so forth.

But we looked and saw that he has devoured an Arab country. We are not being vague. We are talking of right. Coordination is a continuous operation, everyone is bound to return to reason, and Kuwait is bound to once more become a sovereign state. There can be no retraction from this. No free country can change this principle under any condition.

[Correspondent] Custodian of the two holy mosques. In light of the two visits by His Excellency Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to the Kingdom, and in view of the strong relations which bind the two fraternal countries and peoples, how does your majesty evaluate the significance of these meetings in the present conditions through which the region is passing?

[Fahd] First, I must say that my relations with his excellency the president did not exist for a few years. It goes back many years. [passage omitted]

As President Mubarak has stated, the situation in which we find ourselves was forced upon us. We did not seek to be in this situation. As is known, when there were movements near Kuwait, his excellency the president and myself, through Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud, made contacts with President Saddam Husayn. The movements were in fact in the area of Fao, which is Iraqi territory. President Saddam replied that the movements were very normal and consisted of army training in a military area. He fully affirmed to brother President

Husni Mubarak and to me that the movements were no more than ordinary military training.

It was only natural for us to believe what a head of state says. This is because we were talking with a head of state. Furthermore, on numerous occasions and times in the past, President Saddam explained that Iraq's position converged with the Arab nation and with any Arab country exposed to aggression. Hence, it was only right for us to believe what he said. It would not have been right for us to tell him otherwise.

Naturally, I was the first to be surprised by the early morning attack on Kuwait. I repeatedly questioned the person who came to inform me of the attack in order to make sure, for he might have misheard things. Finally, I was convined that the aggression had actually taken place against Kuwait after midnight.

How can we describe this affair other than to say it is painful; it undermines the inter-Arab balance, and undermines the trust which should exist among Arab countries.

Now, what has taken place has taken place. But why does reason not prevail? I believe on one occasion I said—and I am addressing myself to President Saddam—I believe that Kuwait and we, as Arab brothers, have more rights with him than the others. We all know why the war broke out between Iraq and Iran. The war started because of very few reasons, and war should not have broken out between the two countries. However, this happened.

An agreement was concluded in 1975 [between Iraq and Iran on border demarcation]. I know this because I was in Algeria at the time the agreement was being discussed, though I was not a party to the discussions. But I was there.

What happened was that the agreement was broken by President Saddam, who said that it does not reflect the reality of things and that we, the Iraqis, were unjustly treated under the agreement and found ourselves committed to it, but no more. It was thus President Saddam himself who broke the agreement and said that it was not acceptable to Iraq. A grinding war ensued and lasted for eight years, harming both Iran and Iraq at the same time. It cost both countries endless huge sums of money.

Finally, when matters ended in a settlement, Iran did not demand the things President Saddam later gave it. Why, for example, did President Saddam revive the 1975 agreement and consider it valid, act in accordance with it, and abandon a part of Iraqi territory to Iran?

I do not object to this. Every country is free to act as it wishes and according to what it deems to be in its interest. But the question is: Has Iran more rights than Kuwait? This is the disturbing or rather painful thing. On the contrary, if President Saddam were to reconsider the matter seriously, he would find that it is in Iraq's interest, and in his interest personally, and in the interest of the Arab nation, to withdraw from Kuwait. I do not see anything wrong in that. If something wrong was done, we should not try to redress it with another wrong. I believe that we should try to redress the wrong with something right.

Now what is wrong or what would be conveyed to Saddam? Indeed, I would convey thanks to him. If he believes that I would convey anything else to him, for example, I say that I would convey thanks to him. A blunder has been committed, it is clearly a blunder. It has caused a lot of things which could end in a better way if President Saddam were to realize that the best thing for him is to return to doing right.

I believe he should not think that if he returned to doing right, logic, and reason, that that would be taken as a shortcoming on his part. On the contrary, I believe that we would say that an Arab has followed a certain course and has now realized that there was a better course to follow than the one he had embarked upon; thus he has returned to reason. I do not thing that this would bring any disgrace on Saddam.

For this reason, I hope—and I am not alone in hoping, but I am joined by the whole Arab world, all the Arab peoples, the Iraqi people, the Saudi people, the Egyptian people, and the Kuwaiti people—that Saddam will realize that it would not be wrong for him to revert to logic and reason.

It is not wrong for Kuwait to return to its normal conditions under the leadership of Amir Jabir and with its government and Kuwaiti people.

It would be possible—and I know this well, and I say that I know because I know exactly that there are problems between the two countries and they are old problems—but the problems can be solved. However, they cannot be solved by force. What has happened is that force was used. Will there be any response? This is the question. I leave this question to President Saddam to answer. Thank you.

Mubarak Departs 23 Oct

LD2310095390 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0915 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 23 Oct (SPA)—His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, left Jeddah this morning following a visit to the Kingdom. His Royal Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, saw his excellency off from the King 'Abd-al-'Aziz international airport. [passage omitted]

King Fahd Addresses Cabinet on Gulf Situation

LD2210204990 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1852 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 22 Oct (SPA)—King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy

mosques, presided over a cabinet session this afternoon at al-Salam Palace in Jeddah.

In a statement to SPA after the session, Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir said that at the beginning of the session the Council (of Ministers) heard a detailed explanation by the King with regard to the situation in the Arabian Gulf region, and the differences and divisions faced by the Arab nation in its painful reality as a result of the criminal aggression carried out by the ruler of Iraq on the sisterly State of Kuwait. In this context the custodian of the two holy mosques reaffirmed the Kingdom's rejection of the aggression, to which there is no precedence in the Arab nation 's history. He also stressed the Kingdom's demand for the unconditional and speedy withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwaiti territories and the return of legitimacy to them, in addition to the withdrawal of Iraqi troop concentrations from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's border, that being the only way to remove the aggression and its consequences. The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia cannot perceive any initiative for a solution that is outside this framework which was endorsed by the resolutions of the Cairo summit, and Arab, Islamic, and Security Council resolutions.

Regarding the Lebanese issue, the Council expressed its denunciation and condemnation of the acts of terrorism which have come in tandemn with the political and security relaxation prevalent in some Lebanese regions following the end of the state of mutiny, the beginning of the unification of the Lebanese military command, and the strengthening of the legitimate rule over the whole of Lebanon. [passage omitted]

Defense Minister Clarifies 'Distorted' Statement

LD2210200390 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz—second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general—told SAUDI PRESS AGENCY that the erroneous interpretations of some paragraphs of his statement to some Arab newsmen yesterday morning, Sunday, 21 October 1990, contained clear distortions of the meaning intended.

His royal highness said: What I meant in those paragraphs was that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia managed in the past and through good intentions to solve some border problems that existed between the Kingdom and Iraq for a long time, and also between the Kingdom and Jordan and between the Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates, by amicable understanding.

Regarding the Iraqi aggression against the fraternal State of Kuwait, the Kingdom, while declaring its categorical rejection of this aggression, reaffirms its complete commitment to all the Arab and international resolutions that demand from Iraq immediate, complete, and unconditional withdrawal from Kuwaiti territories, and the return of legitimacy to Kuwait under the leadership of His Highness Amir Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

In order to avoid any confusion or interpretation, it became necessary to clarify the meaning intended.

His highness concluded his statement by saying that the full text of the statement will be carried by all the media tonight.

United Arab Emirates

Egyptian President Arrives for Talks With Shaykh

JN2310110590 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1040 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 Oct (WAKH)—President Husni Mubarak of Egypt arrived in Abu Dhabi from Jeddah today on a visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE].

During the visit, President Mubarak will hold talks with UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan on bilateral ties and the recent developments in the Gulf region resulting from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Yemen

Salih Receives Omani Minister, Message

JN2010211490 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Presidential Council Chairman brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has received a letter from his brother His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman. The message concerns several issues of mutual interest and current developments in the region.

The letter was delivered by brother 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Rawwas, minister of information in the fraternal Sultanate of Oman, when he was received by the brother president this evening.

Culture Minister Brother Hasan Ahmad al-Lawzi and the Omani charge d'affaires in our country attended the meeting.

The Omani information minister arrived in Sanaa earlier today.

Japanese TV Interviews Saddam on Gulf Situation

OW2210165990 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1100 GMT 22 Oct 90

["Exclusive" interview with President Saddam Husayn by NHK reporters Kentaro Hirayama and Masayoshi Terauchi at the presidential residence in Baghdad on 20 October; Husayn speaks in Arabic, which is translated into English by an unidentified interpreter; for the first four minutes, Japanese translation of Husayn's responses is provided in subtitles, and thereafter, there is passage by passage translation into Japanese; Hirayama's and Terauchi's questions are asked in English, with Japanese subtitles provided—following is translated from the Japanese]

[Text] [Video begins with NHK reporter Takashima in the Tokyo NHK studio] Good evening. NHK succeeded in holding an exclusive interview with Iraqi President Husayn. Iraq has held foreigners and Japanese as human shields since Iraq sent its toops to Kuwait on 2 August. This is the third time that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has granted an interview to foreign mass media, but it is the first time that he has given an interview to Japanese mass media. President Husayn, whose remarks are drawing attention, answered questions posed by NHK commentator Hirayama and correspondent Terauchi during an 80-minute interview. This evening we have decided to change our scheduled programming to broadcast in full this exclusive interview with President Husayn. I will call commentator Hirayama, who is now in Amman, Jordan, following the interview with President Husayn. Mr. Hirayama, the interview was held in Baghdad on 20 October, was it not? Where was the interview held?

[Video shows Hirayama standing on a hill, against a backdrop of an Amman street] The interview was conducted in a reception room near a large hall of the presidential residence, where official events are held. The presidential residence is located near the left bank of the Tigris River. NHK staffers in Tokyo and Baghdad made efforts to obtain the interview; in particular, correspondent Terauchi in Baghdad worked hard to obtain it. I think that the granting of the interview at this time reflects the present situation of Iraq, which is seeking a way out through political resolution of the crisis.

[Takashima] This video was taken by an Iraqi television station. Am I right?

[Hirayama] Yes, you are right. We prepared cameras. However, they took the video on their own for security reasons. We were told to leave the cameras and small-type recorders in a waiting room. Cameramen assigned to the presidential residence took the video, using the cameras and recorders.

[Takashima] Then, we will watch the interview.

[Video shows Husayn seated in a room with an Iraqi flag in the background facing Hirayama and Terauchi, with an unidentified interpreter sitting between them]

[Hirayama] In connection with the Middle East situation, many people are concerned about the possibility of an outbreak of war, and they are seeking some sort of political measures to settle the crisis. The Iraqi Government has indicated a positive attitude toward a peace proposal made by French President Mitterrand. Why has the Iraqi Government indicated such a attitude?

[Husayn] We are a member of the world and brethren of it. The uneasiness of the people of the world is our uneasiness. What the people are concerned about most is the outbreak of war. All people hope for peace. We are also praying very hard for peace. We have no intention of rejecting dialogue. We are not especially annoyed with regard to various issues involving mutual interests, even if some people hold views different from ours. What is difficult for us is the fact that people who have hostile feelings toward us are indicating a partial view, with preconceptions. We did not have any prior knowledge of President Mitterrand's peace proposal before it was announced. As a leader of a Western nation, a nation that is a member of the UN Security Council, he truly wants to avoid war and looks for measures to settle the crisis peacefully. We have responded positively to President Mitterrand's stance.

[Hirayama] What points do you especially like in the four- pronged peace proposal?

[Husayn] I like a few points in the proposal. I think that among other things, the serious attitude of looking for measures to avoid war deserves appraisal.

[Hirayama] Could you be more specific?

[Husayn] If a way for dialogue is opened, this will naturally yield forward-looking results. Mutual relations will be improved through continuation and repetition of dialogue. Humans can reason. Humans do not spare any efforts to prevent war.

[Takashima] Mr. Hirayama in Amman, how would you describe the facial expression and demeanor of President Husayn when he answered questions?

[Hirayama] They were very mild. All the people in the reception room, both those in uniform and those in plain clothes, stood rigidly when the president entered the room. His eyes were very sharp when he shook hands with us, and I felt awed by his sharp gaze. When talking began, he assumed a softer attitude.

[Takashima] We will now watch the interview, which was held in the atmosphere just described. The interview lasted one hour and 20 minutes. From now on, we will broadcast the interview with Japanese translation provided not in subtitles, but as passage-by-passage superimposed translation. The follwing are President Husayn's views on dominion over Kuwait and the Palestinian issue.

[Husayn] A human being only looks at things from his own standpoint. To be sure, it is possible for people to persist in their positions and express completely different views. In that case, however, we have never refused to listen to such different views. We made a proposal aimed at bringing peace not to a part of the Middle East, but to the entire region. We made this proposal on 12 August. We made this proposal, taking into account the existence of different views.

However, no dialogue has been held. Conditions should be created for holding genuine dialogue. For people who either want war or want peace, it is important to discern who is earnestly seeking dialogue. Rejecting dialogue leads to war, while holding dialogue leads to peace.

[Hirayama] Your Excellency, I think it is necessary for conflicting parties to make concessions to each other to realize dialogue and political solutions.

[Husayn] Among other things, it is important to seek a meeting point for a political solution. If we fail to find the meeting point, we will be unable to realize any political solution. We have tried to resolve not only individual issues in the Middle East, but all issues in the region. Some people are seeking a venue for dialogue only to settle the crisis set off on 2 August. However, many issues in the Middle East that existed before 2 August remain unresolved. As you are aware, the Palestinian issue arose in 1947, and since that time, the issue has remained unresolved. There are other unresolved issues in the region. Oil revenues have made some people rich, and this has become an issue.

[Hirayama] Mr. President, are you ready to enter into political dialogue to settle the crisis, even with the presence of multinational forces in the region?

[Husayn] I have stated that it is important to create a climate suitable for dialogue. We are trying to resolve present issues in the region through dialogue, not force. However, the presence of a superpower's foreign troops in the region is totally harmful for holding a dialogue. Therefore, it is necessary to eliminate all the pretexts to justify the deployment of foreign troops in the region. We are ready to give Saudi Arabia a guarantee that we will not take any hostile actions. If we do so, this will naturally eliminate the pretext justifying the stationing of foreign troops in Saudi Arabia.

[Hirayama] Iraq is governing Kuwait after dividing it into two administrative parts. In other words, Iraq has annexed the northern part of Kuwait and two islands into al-Basrah Province. Iraq has designated the rest of Kuwait as its 19th province. There is speculation that Iraq may restore Kuwait's sovereignty with some conditions attached.

[Husayn] Now, the whole of Kuwait is part of Iraq. We are not present now in only one part of the province of Kuwait in a manner that may justify such an administrative separation or division. How to govern Kuwait is a matter for us to decide. Before the latest situation developed, we had changed the boundary lines of provinces. This is the same thing. Britain forcibly divided Kuwait, which was originally part of Iraq. The grandson of the Kuwaiti provincial governor at the time of division served as the amir of Kuwait up to 2 August of this year. Kuwait was part of al-Basrah Province before the division. We have held dialogue with a new government that was established in August of this year. The new government expressed its desire and hope to be annexed to al-Basrah Province as it was. It also expressed its desire to settle the boundary as it was. However, the Iraqi Government has created the Kasim [as heard] Province and planned to call Kuwait City Kasim City. Regarding whether to call Kuwait Kasim Province or al-Basrah Province, this is a matter for Iraq to decide, since Kuwait is part of Iraq. If Iraq intended to annex part of Kuwait, we would not have done this thing.

[Terauchi] You have mentioned the Palestinian issue as one of the most important factors. If Israel withdraws from the West Bank and Gaza, are you ready also to withdraw from Kuwait?

[Husayn] It is not appropriate for a leader of a nation to answer hypothetical questions posed by the mass media. If I answer your question, what will it give us? If you want to ask me to answer the question, you must first draw the word withdrawal out of Israel.

[Hirayama] Do you still support the political platform of the PLO adopted two years ago, that is, a two-state solution for Palestine—one Israel and one Palestine? Do you still support the idea?

[Husayn] Whenever the PLO may express its position, it represents the view of the Palestinians. Even if it may differ from our view, we would not oppose it. We are calling for the creation of an environment fit for man to live in. We are calling for the realization of this not only for our own country, but also for all the Arabs, all nations, and all generations.

[Hirayama] Are you [words indistinct] to say including the state of withdrawal under certain circumstances?

[Husayn] I will answer your question directly when Israel has recognized the founding of a Palestinian state on Palestinian territory.

[Hirayama] You once advocated disarming the Middle East in general, including your chemical weapons and Israeli nuclear armaments. Does that proposal still stand?

[Husayn] Yes, it still stands. Because of the latest situation, the importance of that proposal has been heightened. If a partial solution is tried, it may exercise a destructive influence with regard to other questions. That is why we are calling for a complete and comprehensive solution. In other words, we, the Iraqis, are proposing ridding the entire Middle East region, where Israel exists, of weapons of mass destruction.

[Terauchi] How do you assess the United Nations and its Charter?

[Husayn] Of course, I set store by the UN Charter. For that reason, we affixed our signature, too. But it is necessary to distinguish between the spirit stipulated in the Charter and actual actions taken by member countries thus far. There is something that runs counter to the spirit of the Charter in actions by some permanent members of the UN Security Council. This has become more plain this time.

[Takashima] So far you have heard President Husayn's views on Kuwait, Palestine and the Arab world. The next question concerns President Husayn's outlook on the world, how he perceives the new framework for the world after the end of the cold war and how he defines the position of the Arab world in it.

[Hirayama] My question concerns your concept of the world situation after the end of the cold war. How do you assess the world situation after the end of the cold war and new coopertion between the Americans and Russians to create a new world order?

[Husayn] To extinguish the fires of war is in the interest of mankind, be it in the East or the West. This holds true for the Arab countries as well as for all other countries of the world. From this viewpoint, we find the development of U.S.-Soviet relations satisfactory. The elimination of the possibility of war between the two countries is a very good thing. But we have something which we must speak about here. Although we have no intention of criticizing the Soviets, the Soviet Union has changed its earlier posture. We are very much concerned with the behavior of the United States, which is applying pressure on the Soviet Union from behind the scenes. The United States is trying to force upon the Soviet Union a position that is totally opposite to justice in human society. We hope that the danger of war will disappear, but the attitude of the United States is unilateral and set.

We are calling on all countries of the world so that a new force will emerge that can counter the absolute force of the United States. We are waiting for forces to counter the United States to be spawned in all parts of the world. By force I do not mean military force. There should be various means to counter the United States. With these forces, we must apply the brakes on unilateral imposition by the United States. For when the United States becomes uncontrollable, it may lead the world to destruction. An armed force that has lost control will start a war. What is happening in the Persian Gulf today attests to this. Using a trivial matter as a pretext, the United States can attack Iraq at any time. Should a war be started, I think that the scale of the war would be beyond anyone's imagination. Neither the extent nor the results of the war would be measurable, I think.

[Hirayama] You look to be confronting superpowers, especially the United States, as a champion of the Third World. But as a result of the triggering of this crisis, the party that is suffering most seems to be the Third World—like people from the Philippines and Bangladesh losing jobs in Kuwait and Iraq and going home, et cetra. Don't you feel some dilemma?

[Husayn] From the humanitarian viewpoint, my heart aches over their situation. But I want to ask, in turn: What situation were they in before this crisis? The living conditions of the people of the Third World are deteriorating with the passage of each day. What is the cause? A force that thinks of nothing but its own interests, at the sacrifice of others, is creating problems in the Third World countries. Don't you think it is the United States that is causing the misfortunes of the Third World today? Therefore, if we desire peace, we must bring about the freedom of the Third World first. To bring about that freedom, we must provide food to the poor people. At the same time, it is necessary to respect their honor, too. I think that by doing this, the foundation for peace will be laid in the Third World and throughout the world.

Peace on the part of the United States and the Soviet Union was possible because a balance of forces was kept between the two sides. But once this balance is broken, disputes will start all over the world, bringing severe damage. The presence of a unilateral force, which tries to dictate to others as it pleases, is the cause of all problems. We are deeply concerned about the influence the latest situation exercised over the Third World. Please bring to mind two statements made by Iraq. First, Iraq announced that it would provide oil to the Third World countries free of charge. It is impossible to impose sale of oil at market prices on the Third World countries. Therefore, we announced that we are ready to export oil to these countries free of charge. The other announcement was addressed to the advanced nations. It said that we are ready to export oil to advanced nations at OPEC prices. Under U.S. pressure, the UN Security Council resolved to impose economic sanctions. Among the advanced nations are some that say they cannot import Iraqi oil after all even if they want to because they cannot pay the prices directly due to the restrictions resulting from the economic sanctions. To these countries, we said we will wait for their payments until the dispute has been resolved. I have heard that in the wake of this announcement by Iraq, the price of oil has decreased by $3.00.

You may be thinking that Iraq had no choice but to make an announcement of such actions because it can no longer withstand the pressure of the economic blockade. But Iraq made an announcement of a similar nature at a summit of nonaligned nations held in Havana in 1979. Actually, as a result of our action, India was able to import oil at cheap prices. India was able to save more than $100 million as a result of the measure.

[Terauchi] What do you see as the future prospects of the Arab world, as a leader of it?

[Husayn] We expect its future to be better than the present. We are optimistic that Arab nations will achieve the progress befitting them. As they have done in the

course of a long history, I believe that the Arab nations will continue to play humanitarian and constructive roles henceforth.

[Hirayama] As for GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] countries, do you accept the status quo, except for Kuwait?

[Husayn] We regard the status quo of the Gulf countries positively. They are all countries that can be considered brothers. Iraq has done its best to have friendly relations with these nations. We have been pushing for cooperative relationships with GCC countries. It is Iraq that has protected these nations from aggression by other countries. Hence, we have no intention of changing our relations with the GCC countries, nor have we any objection to various cooperative relationships being undertaken by these Arab nations.

[Terauchi] So there will be no dominoes falling one by one, after Kuwait?

[Husayn] The countries other than Kuwait have never been a part of Iraq in the past, and Iraq has never been a part of any other country.

[Takashima] The next topic is Japan. Please hear now President Husayn's views concerning Japan's contribution measures with regard to the Gulf crisis.

[Hirayama] What concrete measures do you expect from Japan? And at the same time, how do you assess the Japanese Government's stance thus far concerning this crisis?

[Husayn] We expected that Japan would assume a stance different from that of the United States. We hope that Japan's stance will be different hereafter. This is because if the United States puts the Middle East under its control and comes to control the volume and pricing of oil exported to Japan, that indeed will be against the interests of Japan. Even among the Arab nations there are some that are friendly toward the United States. But the countries that bring benefits to Japan are not those countries, but rather such countries as Iraq. Apparently, there are some countries that make illogical choices.

[Terauchi] So, under what circumstances would you be willing to release all foreign detainees, including Japanese?

[Husayn] First of all, threats against Iraq must cease. Only when a tendency toward war has been eliminated can there be dialogue and peace. For instance, let's take Japan. Japan has not dispatched its forces to the region as yet, as the United States has done. But what has Japan done? Japan has provided $4 billion. From our viewpoint, Japan has provided $2 billion in military support and $2 billion in economic assistance. This is nothing but an act of hostility against Iraq. What is facilitating the stationing of the U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia? It is monetary support from Japan and other countries, is it not? Japan also announced it will send troops without arms, and then, more recently, it has said it will send them with arms. We, the Arabs, still desire friendly relations with Japan. But it escapes my understanding why Japan is taking actions that are not beneficial to itself. I cannot understand why decisions are being made for actions that bring no benefits to its people, numbering more than 100 million. The only interpretation is that Japan is being pressured into doing this by the United States. Japan has economic power and its own unique culture and also a long history.

[Hirayama] Apart from this crisis, and looking to the long future ahead, what do you expect from Japan with regard to Iraq and, subsequently, the region?

[Husayn] I hope that Japan will stand on the side of the Arab world. The Arab world will have to build up close relations of friendship with Japan in the future. Japan is an Asian country and there is no reason why the Arab countries should become irritated by Japan. Between the nations of Europe and America and the nations of the Arab world, there is a history of the former having been rulers and the latter the ruled. With Japan there is no such history. But as long as Japan pursues a policy of following in the footsteps of the United States, we will look on Japan as being the same as one of the European-American nations. Japan's future interests lie in the true friendship between Japan and the Arab countries. For this to be realized, it is important that both sides impose no preconditions on each other. Historically, the Arab nations' feelings toward Japan have been good. The Japanese are always welcome as friends in the Arab world. I hope that the Japanese will value the fact that the Arab nations are looking on Japan from a positive viewpoint.

Bush is now engaged in a useless act of an intelligence game. Intelligence operations are Bush's specialty. Bush is trying to make the countries friendly with the Arab nations turn against them. He wants to disrupt those countries' friendly relations with the Arab countries. Bush is spreading various false rumours to Saudi Arabian leaders and President Mubarak about Iraq's intentions regarding Saudi Arabia. The fellow, who is thoughtless and also witless, is trying with his intelligence manipulations to drag in the European countries. He is doing the same thing with Japan. He is using the old tactics. I know what Bush is doing with Japan. What he wants is for the world to be as he designs it.

[Takashima] President Saddam Husayn is said to have his eyes set on becoming the leader of the new Arab world, likening himself to the second advent of Saladin, an historical Arab hero who fought and defeated the crusaders. In the closing part of this protracted interview, NHK asked President Saddam Husayn what moves he intends to make in the days ahead.

[Hirayama] Finally, about yourself. You are very often regarded by Iraqi and Arab media as a new Saladin [laughter], or a new Al-Nasir. How do you describe yourself? In other words, who do you respect most among historical Arab or international leaders?

[Husayn] All leaders in the world should serve national liberation and make decisions without fearing anyone

but God. Only those who can do so can command the respect of people. I particularly respect Arab leaders. I think that Saladin, who repelled the crusaders, or Egyptian President Nasir is one of them. I am trying to learn and follow that all that is positive in the context of the leaders in the Arab world and the world at large. But we know that every leader lives in his own time. He makes efforts desperately and he behaves according to his own temptations. I am Saddam Husayn, a worshipper of God. That is all. All I am is this person in front of you, Saddam Husayn, one of God's worshippers.

[Hirayama] Is it not a coincidence that your birthplace is the same as that of Saladin, Tikrit?

[Husayn] Tikrit is a historical place. It is an important Arab town and a great Iraqi town of the glorious Arab nation. As you say, it is the place where Saladin was born.

[Hirayama] Your portrait on a white horse is very impressive, and I have seen it in photographs and portraits in many places. It reminds us of the reemergence of Saladin.

[Husayn] I do not know for sure whether Saladin's horse was white; I think it was chestnut-colored.

[Hirayama] The French magazine L'EXPRESS revealed some American plans, the so-called Desert Camel, in which they predict that they can break your armed forces within four days. Did you read the article, and what are your comments?

[Husayn] I believe it will require very sustained perseverance for the United States to carry out operations. I think the codename that has been given to this plan, Night Camel, would be more fitting for an Arab plan because the Arabs are patient and they can take things patiently. The camel belongs to the Arabs. I wonder if they used the word camel for the codename of a plan to make fun of the Arab people. Americans always make fun of Arabs on camels. We are eager for peace and we work for peace to be established in this region and the world at large. Iraq has no desire for war. It is said that I want war, but that is what American leaders think. It is incorrect. The Americans' way of thinking is dangerous. It will become clear in the future that the Americans are the ones longing for war. As you know, civilization emerged in the era before Christ. In its 6,000-year history, Iraq has been faced with the danger of aggression by various nations. Throughout its 6,000-year history, we have never read or heard that Iraq surrendered in just four days. Of course, the people of Iraq are very well aware of this fact. Iraq is not so weak as to allow the American leaders to achieve their goal. The people of Iraq are a people who love peace because it is only natural that a cultured people, or people with such a civilization behind them, should strongly love to maintain peace. But, if they are compelled to fight a war, the Iraqi people will fight courageously.

[Takashima] This concludes the long exclusive NHK interview with Iraqi President Husayn. The interviewers were NHK commentator Hirayama and correspondent Terauchi.

Saddam Reportedly Dreams of Leaving Kuwait

NC2210174190 Paris AFP in English 1711 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Manama, Oct 22 (AFP)—Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has reportedly dreamed of leaving Kuwait, setting off intense speculation the Gulf crisis may be easing.

Mr. Husayn dreamt he was "visited in his sleep by the Prophet Muhammad" who called on him to leave Kuwait, occupied by Iraqi troops since August, the newspaper Al-Ayyam reported from Bahrain Friday.

It said leaflets were distributed Thursday in Kuwait by Iraqi troops. The leaflets said the prophet had told Mr. Husayn, however, to hold on to certain strategic islands, an option categorically opposed by the U.S.-led alliance which has placed over 200,000 troops in Saudi Arabia to defy Iraq.

It was not clear if there was any fundamental change in the Iraqi position.

The Iraqi newspaper Al-'Iraq spoke out Sunday against "those who spread rumors of a partial Iraqi retreat from Kuwait."

Iraq strongly denied reports in Moscow and Amman earlier this month that it was contemplating a partial withdrawal from Kuwait.

"No Iraqi leader has said, or will ever say, that Kuwait is not part of Iraq," a spokesman for the Iraqi Information Ministry was quoted as saying October 17.

"Iraq's position on national issues, including the province of Kuwait, is constant and has not been modified since the proclamation of the eternal union (between Iraq and Kuwait) on August 8," he added.

The Soviet press had earlier reported that President Husayn told Soviet envoy Yevgeni Primakov he might agree to release Kuwait, apart from the northern al-Rumaylah oil field and the two strategic islands of Bubiyan and Warbah.

Arab diplomatic sources in Amman later said Mr. Husayn had made the same offer of a partial withdrawal during secret talks in Jordan with King Husayn.

The Kuwaiti Al-Siyasah published in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, cited sources in Baghdad saying that Mr. Husayn had spoken of his dream at a meeting of senior Iraqi officials.

"The Prophet came to me in my sleep, dressed in white and I felt his uneasiness," Mr. Husayn reportedly told the officials, who included First Vice Premier Taha Yasin Ramadan and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz.

Mr. Husayn also said that the Prophet had told him: "Your missiles, O Saddam, are pointed in the wrong direction," Al-Siyasah reported over the weekend.

The daily described the news as a psychological maneuver to prepare Iraqi public opinion for a partial withdrawal from Kuwait.

It added that the rapid spread of rumors in Baghdad showed the bitterness of a people already wearied by Iraq's eight-year war with Iran.

Meanwhile, the Bahrain daily Akhbar Al-Khalij reported Sunday that refugees arriving from Kuwait said they had seen no signs of Iraqi troops on their way from Kuwait City to the border with Saudi Arabia.

Kuwaitis in Manama have told Agence France-Presse that Iraqi troops were actually moving in the other direction, away from Saudi Arabia and back towards Iraq.

The daily Al-Khalij of the United Arab Emirates, another Arab state in the Gulf, reported Sunday that many Iraqi armored vehicles were withdrawing at night towards northern Kuwait and that Iraqi positions and control posts were being abandoned.

Brazilian Minister Confirms Sale of Uranium

TA2010081990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Brazil's Science Minister Jose Goldemberg has confirmed that, about eight years ago, his country supplied Iraq with several hundred metric tonnes of processed uranium ores. Still, according to the minister, this substance was not suitable for military use. Up to the start of the Gulf crisis, a Brazilian team, headed by a retired Brazilian Air Force general, was engaged in manufacturing air-to-air missiles in Iraq. Nevertheless, Science Minister Jose Goldemberg told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that Brazil's present government ended military cooperation with Iraq and evacuated all Brazilian civilians from Iraq after the Gulf crisis broke out.

Assembly To Discuss Release of French Nationals

JN2210172690 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1709 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Following the arrival of the message [concerning the release of French nationals] from leader President Saddam Husayn, may God protect him, to People's Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih, the latter called for a meeting of the heads of the competent committees to discuss the message. After thorough discussions, it was agreed that the People's Assembly would meet in an extraordinary session at 1800 tomorrow, Tuesday, 23 October 1990, to convey the meanings and dimensions of the letter to the Assembly members.

14 Americans Allowed To Leave for U.S. Via Amman

JN2310105890 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1035 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] It was announced in Baghdad a short while ago that Iraq has allowed 14 U.S. hostages to leave for the United States via Amman today.

This was announced by Salim Mansur, who is heading a U.S. delegation which is currently visiting Iraq. It is most likely that those to be freed will be either elderly or sick.

Five Finnish nationals arrived at Amman airport today after the Iraqi authorities allowed them to leave Iraq at the request of a Finnish parliamentary delegation. Finnish Foreign Affairs Minister Pertti Paasio said that the Iraqi authorities have continued to violate international law by detaining nine Finnish nationals.

Three British Women Arrive in Baghdad 21 Oct

JN2210155390 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1516 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Three British women, who arrived in Baghdad last night, have criticized the presence of U.S. and Atlantic forces in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] and the Arabian Peninsula. They said this is an act that threatens peace and security in the region and the world. In statements to correspondents of the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, they expressed gratitude to the Iraqi people for the hospitality and good care with which they were received. They also expressed their desire to strengthen and improve ties of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples.

Mrs. (Jackie Shalun) denounced the measures of economic blockade against Iraq and the barring of food, medicines, and baby milk from reaching the Iraqi children and people. She said this is an inhumane act and a violation of the international norms and charters. Mrs. (Angela Warshaw), the wife of one of the British guests of Iraq, expressed her, and the British people's desire to resolve all problems in the region through diplomatic dialogue and to avert the military option, which threatens grave and destructive results. She said that, in harmony with British Government policy, the British authorities are imposing a strict blackout on events in the Arab region. She added that the British people strongly reject the use of military force to settle international problems and that they are against the outbreak of war in the region, which will result in comprehensive destruction and large human losses.

Mrs. (Joan Samson), the wife of a British guest of Iraq, stressed that the Iraqi people are a peace-loving people who seek peace and to avert the threat of war, which is threatened by the United States and its allies.

Officials Confer With Foreign Peace Delegations

Saddam Meets U.S. Institute Team

JN2210131790 Baghdad INA in English 1120 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 22, INA—President Saddam Husayn yesterday received a delegation representing the American-Iraqi institution led by Dr. Salim Mansur.

During the audience, situation in the region, impacts of the foreign military concentration in the Gulf on peace and stability in the region, and the large-scale world protest against foreign intervention in the Gulf region were discussed. Present at the audience was Mr. Sa'di Mahdi Salih, speaker of Iraq's National Assembly.

Swedish Official Arrives

JN2010161890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Oct (INA)—Peter Oswald, head of the Political Department at the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, arrived in Baghdad this afternoon at the head of a delegation on a visit of several days to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, Oswald said that he will hold talks with officials of the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the friendly bilateral ties and regional developments in the Arabian Gulf region in particular and the Middle East in general.

The Swedish official was welcomed at the airport by the head of the First Political Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Swedish ambassador in Baghdad.

'Aziz Meets Institute, Swedish Groups

JN2210210590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2015 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Oct 90 (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today received Peter Oswald, head of the Swedish Foreign Ministry's Political Department. They exchanged viewpoints on the latest developments in the Arab Gulf and the Arab region in general, and discussed a number of issues of mutual concern.

The Foreign Ministry's under secretary, the head of the Ministry's First Political Department, and the Swedish ambassador in Baghdad attended.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, also received today the Iraqi-U.S. Institute's delegation under Dr. Salim Mansur. The meeting was attended by Nizar Hamdun, Foreign Ministry under secretary, and the head of the Ministry's First Political Department.

Jasim Receives Institute Team

JN2210210890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2030 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Oct (INA)—Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information, today met with the Iraqi-U.S. Institute's delegation led by Dr. Salim Mansur.

During the meeting, the minister pointed out that the foreign presence in the Arab region had been received with strong denunciation and condemnation from the Arab people and all Muslims.

Mr. Latif Nusayyif Jasim stressed Iraq's ability and absolute readiness to confront the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy and the threats made by the U.S. and Atlantic forces invading the lands of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia].

U.S., Japanese Groups Arrive

JN2010185090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1720 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Oct (INA)—A U.S. peace delegation led by Douglas Heartred, chairman of the U.S. People's Reconciliation Association [name and title as received], arrived in Baghdad today on a weeklong visit to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, the delegation head said that the delegation comprises people from all over the United States, representing various religions. He added that the delegation members came to Iraq to avert war in the Arab region and resolve problems through peaceful means.

The delegation head went on to say: During our visit, we will meet with Iraqi officials and exchange with them views on a peaceful solution to the crisis. He said that the delegation seeks to strengthen ties of cooperation and peace with the Iraqi people. He indicated that the delegation brought with it a modest gift; namely, a quantity of medicine for the Iraqi Red Crescent Society.

A Japanese peace delegation led by Satu [name as received], adviser to the Arab-Japanese Friendship Society, also arrived in Baghdad this afternoon on a weeklong visit to Iraq.

Speaker Receives U.S. Group

JN2110211490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Oct (INA)—National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih today received a U.S. peace delegation led by Douglas Heartred, chairman of the U.S. people's reconciliation association [name and title as received]. During the meeting, he stressed that efforts are being exerted by Iraq and its leader Saddam Husayn to bring about peace and avert the specter of war in the region and the world, noting that the Arabs are able to solve all their problems without any foreign interference.

He also explained that the United States has lost its credibility as a result of its position on the region's issues, including the issue of the Palestinian people.

Douglas Heartred said that the majority of the American people reject war and prefer a peaceful and negotiated settlement of the Gulf problem. He stressed that as peace advocates, they reject the economic blockade of Iraq and consider attempts to starve 18 million people as inhuman.

Italians, Swedes Urge Peace

JN1910152190 Baghdad INA in English 1340 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, Oct. 19, INA—Heads of the Italian and Swedish volunteers delegations demanded pressure on countries that had dispatched forces to the Arab Gulf and Peninsula to withdraw their forces and confirm the principles of non-interference in the domestic policy of countries.

Speaking during a press meeting held at the office of the Iraqi Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization, the two heads of delegations stressed the importance of convening an international conference for peace and disarmament in Baghdad with the participation of non-governmental organisations to reinstate peace in the world and the entire region. They also referred to the desire of several countries and organisations to set up camps for peace in Baghdad with the object of avoiding a destructive war.

Government Reportedly Proposes Gulf Peace Plan

JN2010181890 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1715 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] It has been learned from Arab diplomatic sources in Cairo that the recent contacts by Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan with several Arab leaders included the proposal of a new Iraqi plan for the peaceful settlement of the Gulf crisis.

The Iraqi plan is based on several points. Among these points are the following: First, Iraq will keep the al-Rumaylah oilfield and the Bubiyan and Warbah areas, given that they are Iraqi areas in accordance with Ramadan's viewpoint and no negotiations [word indistinct] on these areas. Iraq, however, is ready to produce all the documents substantiating its historical rights to these areas. Second, there is the possibility of holding international negotiations on the other areas of Kuwait, with Iraq agreeing that if these negotiations end by showing that Iraq has no right to keep these other areas of Kuwait, then Iraq believes that, first, elections should be held quickly to determine the fate of these areas, and whether the people living in them agree to join Iraq or prefer to secede from the motherland, as the plan states; and, second, if the elections result in a decision to secede from Iraq, new elections will be held so that the people can choose a democratic and national government to serve their interests, objectives, and aspirations.

Third, Iraq expresses its readiness to conclude a security agreement with this government to safeguard the common interests between itself and the province that has seceded from Iraq, according to the plan.

Fourth, all this could take place within the framework of withdrawing all the foreign forces from the Gulf region and obtaining a U.S. guarantee, with international sponsorship, of nonaggression against Iraqi territory and military installations, and that all the resolutions on economic and trade embargo imposed on Iraq should be canceled.

Moves To Counter French in Saudi Arabia Reported

PM2210155690 Paris LE MONDE in French 20 Oct 90 p 3

["J.I." report: "Iraqi Infantry Division Faces France's 'Daguet' Force"]

[Text] According to information gathered by the French intelligence services, the Iraqis have deployed an infantry division in Kuwait to counter the "Daguet" force in Saudi Arabia. The Iraqi unit is the 16th infantry division. Flanked to the East by Pakistani units, France's "Daguet" force has Moroccan paratroopers ahead of it but is situated less than 100 km from the border with Kuwait, where the Iraqi division is ranged.

Consisting of 13,000 men and 4,000 vehicles, the Iraqi 16th infantry division is organized along Soviet lines and comprises three infantry regiments, a tank regiment, a surface-to-surface artillery regiment, an engineering battalion, a reconnaissance battalion, and a battalion of surface-to-air weapons.

According to the same sources, Iraq's forces in Kuwait currently total some 470,000 men, not all of whom have the same level of battle readiness.

In the front line, along the Kuwaiti-Saudi border, there are 24 divisions with 3,700 tanks (that is, two-thirds of Iraq's total), 2,300 infantry fighting vehicles (some 45 percent of its total), and 2,200 guns (including two battalions of Soviet-developed Frog-7 surface-to-surface missiles with a 70-km range and accurate to within 400 meters of the target.)

According to the same assessments, there are four divisions of reinforcements behind these Iraqi forces.

Some 100 km away Iraq has deployed three divisions of the republican guard, which are crack units, according to allied observers. Nearby there are five additional Iraqi divisions in reserve.

These forces are protected by the Iraqi Air Force, which carries out sorties at various intervals daily. For a while the intelligence thought they observed a steady decrease in the number of daily flights, down to some 40 per day, whereas the previous average rate was 70 per day. They deduced that Iraq was anxious to economize on its stocks of military fuel. More recently, however, 130 sorties a day have been counted, and a record number of 173

occurred in one day on 16 October. According to the intelligence services, half the recorded flights are fighter training flights.

In Kuwait the Iraqis have laid several minefields and dug in most of their tanks. This observation enables analysts to claim that for the present Baghdad seems to be preparing for a defensive battle in part of Kuwait against the anti-Iraqi front.

Foreign Correspondents Tour Kuwait

JN2210211390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2050 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Oct (INA)—The Ministry of Culture and Information has, in the past few days, organized a tour in the governorate of Kuwait for Western media correspondents.

During their tour of the governorate, the correspondents were briefed on the nature of health, education, and other services offered to citizens. AFP, REUTER, UPI, Voice of America, and Radio Monte Carlo were represented among the correspondents.

'Source' Ridicules Kuwaiti Resistance Claims

JN2110124990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Oct (INA)—A responsible source has ridiculed the report published by the Qatari newspaper AL-SHURUQ alleging that the so-called Kuwaiti resistance had released more than 70 military personnel from an Iraqi jail in Kuwait.

The source said that these fabricated news reports deserve to be ridiculed and laughed at since the so-called "Kuwaiti resistance" exists nowhere but in the minds of the Croesuses under whose feet the earth was shaken by the lofty Iraqis.

The source added: The Iraqis, who terrorized the traitors and denied them the opportunity of a good night's sleep—the traitors who tampered with the people's wealth and funds—will not be deterred from achieving their objective of safeguarding the great pan-Arab accomplishment represented by the return of the branch to the root, Iraq.

Concluding his statement, the source said: The henchmen and tools of colonial powers, who have become outmoded, will continue to promote such stories, which only reflect their failure, fabrications, and dreams which they use to feed their sick mentalities.

Minister on Gas Rationing for Foreigners, Citizens

JN2210135090 Baghdad INA in English 1145 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, Oct. 22 INA—Minister of Oil Mr. 'Isam 'Abd-al- Rahim al-Jalabi on Sunday [21 October] discussed the best means of providing Iraqi citizens and foreign community in Iraq with car petrol and lubricants saying that foreign diplomatic missions would be supplied with special coupons by the Foreign Ministry.

In a press conference, the oil minister said that cars with green plates must produce a legal document from the ministries concerned or from Industries' Union showing that a need for the vehicles is still valid, otherwise they would not be supplied with petrol.

"As for those vehicles with Kuwait plates, they would not be given coupons before changing their plates to Iraqi ones, he said. Motorcycles and Arab and foreign vehicles coming to Iraq from Jordan would have special coupons for their petrol and lubricant oils," said the minister.

He added that no vehicle whatsoever would be supplied with petrol unless the owner produces the needed coupons.

"The vehicles of companies which have ended their projects would have no access to petrol. The instruction must be implemented strictly and no exception would be considered," said Mr. al-Jalabi, adding that, however, certain cases could be studied if and when government bodies demanded with written letters the need for petrol for some of their staffers' vehicles.

The oil minister also said that some other exceptions, like passenger buses and other means of collective transportation, would be further considered by the Ministry's special committee.

Mr. al-Jalabi pointed to the importance of oil rationing and the ultimate cooperation by all parties concerned, especially the consumers, petrol filling stations, companies distributing oil products and government offices.

In the meantime the minister warned against storing petrol as this could result in grave dangers. He stressed that petrol is a real and dangerous source of fire and explosions, its fumes could cause hazardous pollution and thereby can have grave effects on health in general and children in particular. Petrol is not like kerosene and consequencly storing it can harm the performance and efficiency of the engines of vehicles.

"Therefore the Ministry is against storing petrol or lubricants by the individuals who must know that through appropriate application of the Ministry's regulations they would have their allocations weekly", said the minister.

He said that the 30-litre weekly allocation of petrol per car would run the vehicle for approximately 240 kilometres, a distance enough for the individual to meet his weekly needs.

On the reason behind oil rationing, the minister said that the production of petrol and engine lubricants need special chemical agents which are now depleting.

He said that oil rationing is a temporary measure which he hoped would be lifted when the situation gets better.

Parliamentary Delegations Depart After Meetings

JN2110090990 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1740 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Oct (INA)—Arab parliamentary delegations continued to leave Baghdad after attending the meetings of Arab parliamentarians which concluded the day before yesterday.

Palestine National Council Speaker Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih and the delegation accompanying him left this morning.

In a statement to INA, Shaykh al-Sa'ih expressed appreciation for the good care given to meetings of the Arab parliamentarians by His Excellency President Saddam Husayn. He described the results of these meetings as positive, adding that these results will bolster the struggle and steadfastness of the Palestinian people and their intifadah in the occupied territories.

The Palestinian delegation was seen off at the airport by National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih and the Palestinian ambassador in Baghdad.

The Jordanian parliamentary delegation led by Sulayman 'Arar, speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives, also left Baghdad this afternoon after attending meetings of the Arab parliamentarians which concluded Thursday.

In a statement to the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, Sulayman 'Arar described the resolutions of the meetings as excellent. He affirmed that the meetings were some of the most successful parliamentary meetings.

The Algerian parliamentary delegation led by Belkhadem Abdelaziz, president of the Algerian People's National Assembly, also left Baghdad this afternoon.

In a statement to INA, Belkhadem described the results of the Arab parliamentarians' meetings as positive. He added that the results reflect the will of the Arab nation's masses, and affirmed the need to launch a popular army to liberate usurped Palestine from the filth of the Zionists.

The Algerian official added: We in Algeria stand united behind Iraq in its confrontation and defiance of the U.S.-Atlantic troops deployed on Arab lands.

The two delegations were seen off at the airport by National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih.

Saddam Receives Algerian Media Representatives

JN2010203690 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Names of Algerian journalists as heard]

[Text] His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn received a number of Algerian journalists this evening. They are the following:

Abdelkadir Mam Taher, chief editor of world events at the Algerian national television station; Abdelgani Treibi, of Algerian national radio; Sid Haroun Mohamed el Said, head of the Political Section of the Algerian magazine EL-MOUDJAHID; Abdelkarim Zubeih, of the newspaper AL-JAZA'IR AL-AHDATH; Fatheya Ikab, chief political editor of the newspaper AL-JAZA'IR AL-AHDATH.

During the meeting, a press dialogue was conducted on developments in the Arabian Gulf, their regional and international repercussions, the Algerian popular position in support of Iraq's confrontation of the U.S. presence in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia], and the threat to attack Iraq.

The meeting was attended by Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim.

Ramadan Receives Mother Teresa's Envoy

JN2210064390 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, today received Father (Kerven Mozovini), envoy of Mother Teresa, president of the world charity organization for refugees. During the meeting, Ramadan received a letter addressed to leader President Saddam Husayn from Mother Teresa dealing with the current situation in the Arabian Gulf.

Ramadan stressed the eagerness of Iraq, under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn, to achieve a just peace in the entire region based on his excellency's peace initiatives and to provide a favorable climate to solve all problems through peaceful means.

Minister Meets With German Company Director

JN2210150590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, Oct, 22 INA—Mr. Husayn Kamil Hasan, minister of industry and military industrialization, today met Mr. Peter Junkan, head of the board of directors of Stramak Company. [names as received]

The two sides reviewed the industrial development programs in Iraq and aspects of cooperation between Iraq and Germany to serve interest of both countries.

Mr. Kamil confirmed Iraq's determination to abort the economic embargo imposed by the United States and its allies, referring in this respect to Iraq's enormous potentials which could actively participate in achieving victory.

Jasim Confers With Japanese Institute Official

JN2010155390 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1510 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, received today Wasuke Miyake, head of Japan's Middle East Survey Association.

The first deputy prime minister stated that the Iraqis are united and ready to defend Iraq from Zakho to the sea. He added: The governments that have taken hostile stands toward the Iraqi people and succumbed to the inhuman U.S. decisions are taking positions against their sons, peoples, and the future of their ties with Iraq and the Arabs.

Ramadan went on to say: The hosting of foreign nationals by the Iraqi people is a humanitarian measure and a sincere step to contribute toward averting a regional war. Taha Yasin Ramadan affirmed that the Japanese Government's position reflects the implementation of the anti-Iraq U.S. policy. It is a reward from the current Japanese Government to the United States, which attacked the Japanese people with atomic bombs and annihilated Japanese nationals, Ramadan said.

Wasuke Miyake said that the Japanese people seek peace and that they are against war. He added that the Japanese people oppose the illegal resolutions passed to starve the Iraqi people and denying their children access to food and medicines. He noted that the efforts, positions, and approaches to bring about peace are expanding on the international scene, which confirms that peoples, organizations, and parliaments oppose war and desire peace.

Ramadan Meets With Finnish Delegation

JN2110192390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1355 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Oct (INA)—Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, has said that Iraqi categorically rejects war as a means to solve international disputes and problems and that our people, backed by all good people in our Arab nation, will fight until they achieve victory if the United States and its allies insist on igniting war in the region.

During his reception of Saara-Maria Paakkinen, member of the Finnish Parliament and deputy chairman of the ruling Finnish Socialist Democratic Party and her accompanying delegation, Ramadan asserted that Washington and its allies cannot determine the end of the battle. He said that the United States, which considers itself the only superpower in the world, sees for the first time an Arab power that rejects hegemony and blackmail. He added that this is viewed as a catastrophe by U.S. policy, which tries to dominate and tamper with peoples' potentials.

The first deputy prime minister reiterated his criticism of the U.S. resolutions issued by the UN Security Council [UNSC] and described them as illegitimate. He said that the Security Council and UN charters do not call for preventing food, medicine, and milk from peoples, pointing out that the UN Security Council has issued several resolutions condemning the Zionist entity for its repressive measures against the Palestinian and Lebanese citizens, but none of them has been implemented.

For her part, Mrs. Saraa-Maria Paakkinen expressed her support for the concept of resolving the Gulf crisis peacefully. She also called for solving the Palestine question in order to establish a just and lasting peace in the region.

She also stressed the profundity of the Finnish-Iraqi relations and called for promoting them in various fields. The meeting was attended by 'Adnan Dawud Salman, chairman of the Friendship, Peace, and Solidarity Organization in Iraq.

Paper Criticizes 'Colonialist' U.S. Role

JN2110111790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Oct (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has asserted that the Arab nation firmly and strongly rejects the new American order which aims at putting peoples in colonialist chains once more.

In its editorial today, the newspaper criticizes the claims and slogans of the Bush administration about the new international order which gives the United States a free hand to oppress peoples, continue to steal their wealth, and abort their aspirations for a free, honorable living.

AL-THAWRAH goes on to say: The international order Bush is bragging about and boasting of is an order which falsifies peoples' will and stands against their aspirations and legitimate national ambitions for social and civilized freedom, independence, and progress. In fact, this order takes man back to the ages of hateful colonialist domination and provides imperialist hegemony with a cover of international legitimacy, thus enabling the "north" to continue its policy which aims at exploiting and looting the resources of the "south" and rendering it more and more impoverished under the banner of the United Nations. This order also transforms the Security Council into a U.S. Security Council to punish those whom the United States wants to punish and to stay away from those whom the United States does not want to harm.

AL-THAWRAH adds that the new international order which the United States is seeking—whose features began to appear last August—is responsible for transforming the United Nations and the Security Council into a pliable tool dedicated to the service of U.S. policies, aims, and interests. This would also impart a "legitimate and collective" character to these illegitimate policies and interests.

AL-THAWRAH goes on to say: The best evidence of this is the unjust, inhuman resolutions the United States issued through the Security Council against Iraq, let alone the insignificant resolution which it issued about the ugly Zionist massacre in the al-Haram al-Sharif in Jerusalem after it had practiced various kinds of pressure, blackmail, and threats with the member states of the Council.

AL-THAWRAH adds: The other aspect of the international order which the United States has in mind and wants to enforce is that it is an order which grants it the right to interfere politically and militarily on a large scale in the affairs of other countries, especially Third World countries, in a manner which threatens the security and sovereignty and legitimate interests of these countries.

This order was the one which gave the United States the right to invade Panama, topple its government, and commit the ugliest massacres against civilians and defenseless people. Also, the selfsame order permitted the United States to invade the lands of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] and desecrate Arab and Islamic sanctities there. Above all, this order grants the United States the "right" to launch a blatant aggression on Iraq supported by exposed and very weak pretexts. The new international order gives the United States a free hand in the world and guarantees the continuation and consolidation of its practices of aggression and imperialist plundering of the resources and wealth of the peoples of the Third World, in a manner which would sustain the U.S. life style.

The newspaper cautions: If there are some who surrendered and followed the U.S. Administration and its perspectives about the new international order and its future prospects for this or that reason, it is a gross and destructive error to think that the peoples and countries of the world would give in and submit to the will and perspective of Washington.

AL-THAWRAH affirms that the peoples of the world, who made dear sacrifices for their freedom, independence, and legitimate rights, strongly and firmly reject this new U.S. order which aims at putting peoples in colonialist fetters once more; and they refuse to see the United States, which has a black record rife with crimes and aggressive practices, transformed into the guardian of international law and peoples' rights.

The paper expresses its confidence in all the free men, strugglers, and fair people in the world who stand with us and oppose this dangerous U.S. conspiracy which aims at enslaving peoples, falsifying their will, and usurping their rights under the cover of international legitimacy.

Editorial Warns U.S. To Expect 'Strong Action'

JN2010110590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Oct (INA)—The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH has stressed that Iraq has the right to counter U.S. conduct in order to defend its rights and end the injustice to which it is being subjected.

In its editorial today, the paper says that Iraq is capable of acting in accordance with the same international laws and norms to defend itself and its rights after the U.S. Administration has wronged it, carried out the ugliest violations of rights against it, and endangered the lives of its sons.

Those far and near know that Iraq and its people are not weak, and that by virtue of brave leader Saddam Husayn's wisdom, they can endure harm, though they do not forget their rights; nor can they be lenient with those who hurt and wrong them, the paper adds.

The paper warns the enemies, whether the United States, its ally and partner the Zionist entity, or its agents Fahd and Husni, that they should expect strong action from Iraq, but that it is a correct and responsible action aimed at safeguarding Iraq's rights, upholding the banner it is carrying in the name of all believers in the world, and releasing from captivity the sanctities of Arabs and Muslims in Mecca, al-Madinah, and Jerusalem.

The paper stresses that Iraq's words and reaction represent the word of the gathering of believers against the entire front of evil and injustice.

It refers to the U.S. Administration's blockade against Iraq and its control over the UN laws and regulations, and says it is now clear to all world nations that America can practice injustice, usurp rights, and perpetrate whatever crimes it wishes in the name of international laws.

Paper Ridicules U.S. Talk of Military Option

JN2110092790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Oct (INA)—The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH affirms that our Armed Forces units are on a constant state of alert and preparedness to confront any U.S. attack or aggression regardless from which direction it comes, and to deter and destroy this attack or aggression.

In an editorial entitled "The War Option and Hard Facts," the paper adds: Iraq under President Saddam Husayn will not be intimidated by any threats or troop buildups. As for the alleged war scenarios being highlighted by the Western media machines, they will not move a single hair on the head of any Iraqi fighter.

The paper goes on to say: What is being promoted by Washington about a lightning war or a devastating attack are mere delusions that even Bush does not believe. Likewise, the statements and reports highlighted in this regard are found unacceptable and inconceivable by military analysts and experts, including Bush's advisers, even though such delusions are found convenient by the betrayers of the Arab nation such as the betrayer of the two holy mosques and the Egyptian ruler who use them for domestic consumption.

AL-QADISIYAH stresses that the Iraqi Armed Forces possess the weapons and means that will render this [military] might useless in the midst of the desert sands, which have so far shown the uselessness of this technology when particles of hot sand put the most sophisticated U.S. equipment out of order.

The paper adds: We would like only to remind others that war is only settled by the infantrymen, the elite of the army, with the help of all other classes of the army. This has been the case in all wars fought throughout history. We are proud that our heroic fighters will fight displaying great faith in their cause and an expertise not possessed by any other army.

AL-QADISIYAH goes on to say: As for the remaining weapons of destruction and combat possessed by the Iraqi Army, everybody is well aware of some of them. However, we promise to come up with some surprises in this regard—surprises that will make Bush and his allies lose their senses. As for the claims and insinuations that Bush will resort to the military option after the failure of the economic blockade being enforced on Iraq, we believe that this is an exposed maneuver because the entire world realizes that the economic blockade, which sought to bring Iraq to its knees, has failed and bolstered the Iraqis' determination to defy and confront. Hence, irrespective of what he can conceivably do, Bush's calculations will not achieve their desired objectives.

AL-QADISIYAH says: In brief, we work for peace as if it will be maintained forever and prepare for the crucial battle as if it will break out this hour. Bush should not nurse the delusion that war will end overnight and that it will take place in a specific location. This battle will be a crucial one in the full sense of the word.

Concluding its editorial, AL-QADISIYAH says: We will not allow the crucial battle to end before the destruction of all of the U.S.-Atlantic troops. As for its arena, it will be the entire Arab homeland and the whole world. Wherever the enemy maintains presence, east or west, we will strike at its war machine and interests. The coming days will show the truth of our argument.

Paper Criticizes Senate Stand on Loan for Israel

JN2210150790 Baghdad INA in English 1115 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, Oct. 22, INA—AL-JUMHURIYAH daily for today has said that the U.S. House of Senate [as received] rejection of endorsement of a resolution regarding illegality of the Zionist colonisation in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and al-Quds [Jerusalem] was an operation for lending legal formula to colonisation and what entails it of confiscation of Arab lands, and expulsion of their owners.

In an analysis of the Senate attitude, AL-JUMHURIYAH maintained that also meant that the Senate supported the colonisation with money required for erecting Zionist settlements in the occupied Arab territories. It also discloses falsity of the guarantees requested by the American Administration from Shamir's government to the effect of not using the American 400 million dollar loan, to be given by Washington to Tel Aviv, for building houses for the Soviet and other migrants in the West Bank, Gaza, and al-Quds.

The paper noted that the time period between rejection of the Senate on endorsement of the resolution and declaration of Bush's administration on guarantees of Shamir's government on investing the loan for colonisation in the occupied lands did not exceed ten hours.

The paper questioned the stance of Washington's trumpeters such as Husni [Mubarak] and [King] Fahd versus this double standard American policy and disclosure of falsehood of the U.S. claims regarding the Israeli colonisation.

Paper Condemns U.S., British Support to Israel

JN2210134390 Baghdad INA in English 1135 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, Oct. 22 INA—THE BAGHDAD OBSERVER said here today that backed by the United States and Britain, Israel has defied Security Council Resolution 672 which took the Council five days of wrangling to issue at a time when it (Council) was in a hurry to enforce eight resolutions against Iraq within a few weeks. Israel has rejected many U.N. resolutions but nothing has been done to force it to abide by these resolutions.

The dailys said that anti-Iraq resolutions have been issued under pressure from the U.S. and Britain which speak of international legitimacy while they encourage Israel and see to it that it is not cornered at the Security Council.

The daily further said that the Council has become an instrument for rewarding the aggressor. Resolution 672 fell short of condemning the Israeli government's aggressive and expansionist policy in the occupied Arab territories. It only condemned violence by Israeli police. Nothing was mentioned about Israel's expansionist measures which are leading to more and more annexation of Arab territories, including Jerusalem whose illegal annexation as Israel's capital has not initiated any reaction from Americans and the British who were behind the soft tone of Resolution 672. Washington and London foiled a push by the Non-Aligned Movement group in the Council to take strict measures against Israeli aggression.

Perhaps it would be interesting to recall here that so far the U.S. has used its veto right 81 times in the Security Council to protect Israel. The recent U.S. and British pro-Israel effort was boosted by collaboration from lackeys like the Egyptian and Saudi regimes, the daily said.

The unjust U.N. resolutions against Iraq as opposed to the shameful, mild attitude towards the Israeli crimes have undermined the credibility of the world organisation as a protector of peace and legitimate interests of its member-states.

These resolutions have further exposed the double-standard attitude of the U.S. and Britain, the daily concluded.

Agricultural Campaign Aims To Foil Blockade

LD2210081290 Baghdad International Service in English 2100 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Here is a special program on the agricultural drive in Iraq:

A national campaign to cultivate land with grain and basic agricultural crops is gathering momentum now all over Iraq following the U.S.-led economic blockade against Iraq.

The campaign aims at foiling the blockade which ended Iraq's imports from the rest of the world. The government has put many facilities at the disposal of the agricultural sector and set up plans to boost aid.

High-ranking government officials are supervising these plans. Last week, Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Sa'dun Hammadi chaired a meeting which discussed preparations for winter cultivation in four provinces: Babylon, Karabala, Najaf, and Qadisiyah, in central Euphrates.

The four provinces grow wheat, barley, and corn. The Revolution Command Council, the highest authority in the country, has issued scores of resolutions encouraging farmers to cultivate lands. The government increased prices of agricultural crops that it purchased from farmers, particularly wheat, rice, and corn.

Land owned by the government can be leased by private farmers for only little fees to be paid after five years of rent. The government instructed the agricultural cooperative bank to allocate 100 million Iraqi dinars as easy loans for farmers to help them cultivate land. Their money, allocated by the bank, will be spent on agricultural projects, such as poultry feed plants, cattle and sheep raising, and fish farming.

Twenty million Iraqi dinars were allocated for agricultural equipment used in the production of seasonal crops like wheat, barley, paddy, soya beans, lentils, chick peas, sugar cane, and others.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has on its part decided to make use of the largest possible agricultural areas available at present and within the coming winter season. The ministry has dispatched teams to even remote villages in the country to introduce up-to-date methods of cultivation to farmers and show them how to use fertilizers and how to mechanize agriculture.

Concerning livestock, the Ministry also takes measures to ensure animal feed. It formed a number of committees to examine and diagnose animal diseases at earlier stage. Agricultural and irrigation bodies and farmers unions of the provinces are urged to give clear instructions to farmers on the most useful ways to exploit water.

Iraq's keenness to boost the agricultural sector goes back well before the economic blockade. Earlier in 1989, the Revolution Command Council issued a decree calling for rice cultivation in all the provinces of the country. Consequently, the government took measures to encourage rice plantation. Feasibility reports and land surveys were carried out to assess water supply for rice paddies.

Incentives are given to farmers to grow rice. Facilities and relevant services such as feeds, pesticides, fertilizers, planting and harvesting machines are made available. Modern planting technique for rice growing is being encouraged by the government. Traditional manual methods of transplanting seedling into paddies have been limited.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation also undertakes combatting pests. The agricultural department of the ministry employs various techniques to carry out its pest control campaign. Thousands of dunams, the dunam equal to 2,500 square meters, of agricultural land are sprayed with pesticides.

Hammadi Opens Seminar on Food, Research

JN2010160090 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 15 Oct 90 p 6

[Text] Dr. Sa'dun Hammadi, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and deputy prime minister, yesterday morning opened the meetings of a seminar on food types in special circumstances, which was organized by the Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils, in cooperation with the Arab Federation for Food Industries, the Arab Women's Federation, and the General Federation of Iraqi Women. The seminar will last for two days.

The seminar was opened with a recitation from the Holy Koran, after which the attendees stood up to recite Koranic verses for the martyrs of Iraq and the Arab nation.

After that, Dr. Sa'dun Hammadi made a speech. At the outset, he noted the importance of holding this seminar in these critical circumstances for the Arab nation, at whose forefront stands Iraq—the Iraq of challenges, revolution, and victories.

Hammadi added: We have fought for eight years, and many powers have tried to deny us the arms with which to defend ourselves. However, we have managed to buy some and invent others, which are no less efficient. We have gained victory. Now, they are trying to prevent food from reaching our bountiful land. We know that our land is bountiful and that the Iraqis in particular, and the Arabs in general, when challenged, will give up many things to maintain their land, dignity, and homes. He said that the invaders will regret this, and that they have no other choice.

Taha al-Na'imi, secretary general of the Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils, delivered the Federation's

speech, in which he said that great challenges make great peoples and that great peoples beget great leaders who respond to challenges. He said our Iraqi people today, with all the sons of the nation and the honorable men in the world standing by them, are opposing the cruelest crusader onslaught of this century, which is aimed against our scientific and technological progress.

He added: Agricultural and food progress in general calls for patient scientific efforts and research with ever-increasing activity, especially since Arab agricultural projects and joint Arab agricultural action are still in need of a serious attention to assess their previous progress so as to put the results of scientific research to use.

Falah Jabr, secretary general of the Arab Federation for Food Industries, said that food is an old biological need that has sustained man since he was brought into being. The search for food was the biological urge that led to the invention of social systems that differentiate man from the other living organisms around him. We realize, he added, that we, in the Iraq of the two al-Qadisiyahs, must provide food for about 18 million people, 3.2 million of whom are children under the age of five; 8.5 million are boys under the age of 16. We have also to note that children under one year of age represent about 4.5 percent of the total number of citizens, and that we have to provide food from local sources by our hands and our scientific and technological capabilities.

In her speech, Mrs. Manal Yunis, chairwoman of the Arab Women Federation, underscored the need to utilize science in the service of steadfastness and opposition, to adopt a practical formula to overcome weaknesses in the preparation of an Arab meal, in terms of maintaining its food balance, and, at the same time, to increase local production of fruits, vegetables, and cereals, and to reduce dependence on imported foodstuffs, so as to achieve Arab food security.

After that, the attendees discussed research papers and reports submitted to the seminar, which included diversification and enrichment of qualitative aspects of children's food; providing food for infants; the necessary elements of the basic meal for the individual and the family; the available use of dates; the present and future use of yogurt; and protein balance in the meal, which were submitted by researchers and specialists on agriculture and food from local and Arab federations and ministries.

Public 'Adapting'; Blockade Judged 'Failure'

JN2110141490 Baghdad INA in English 1240 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 21, INA—AL-THAWRAH daily of Baghdad has said that day after day, effects of the economic blockade being imposed on Iraq conspicuously affect it the formula which was invented by the U.S. Administration for building economic, political and psychological pressure on the Iraqi people. In its article the daily added that the U.S Administration, behind this formula aimed at succumbing Iraq and forcing it to accept the policy of organized plunder of the Arab resources and riches and confiscating its legitimate right to tread the road of progress and development away from yielding to this or that political force. [sentence as received] However the work with coupons system to supply the citizens with necessary foodstuffs and some basic consumer materials as fuel oil and lubricants has become a characteristic of the economic life in Iraq, thereby the state undertakes providing the citizens with these necessary materials in a manner to achieve the equity in distributing the available quantities according to acceptable limits. There is no doubt that this policy has direct impact on the individual and the family, once the Iraqi had never suffered from any shortage in the foodstuffs or other basic consumer materials throughout the eight-year Gulf war, under the virtue of the successful economic policy adopted by the political leadership in countering the destiny defiance which targetted exhaustion of Iraq's economic materials and manpower. Nevertheless, the admittance in effects of the economic blockade is a matter, and the illusion in its success to succumb the Iraqi people is another thing. However the Iraqi people which succeeded in liquidating stooges and spies and achieved its successful political independence since first days of the July 17th Revolution. [sentence as received]

Monitoring movement of the people in nature of adapting with circumstances of the economic blockade and their success in finding the practical alternatives, besides their unbounded preparedness for tolerance, patience and capability on endurance would at first confirm failure of the policy of economic blockade in realizing its objectives.

Editor Reacts to Mubarak Statements to Troops

JN2210202490 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1913 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen. We have just received the following:

Reacting to Husni's speech to Egyptian forces he placed under U.S. command in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia], the INA Arab affairs political editor has written:

We are confident that the Egyptian forces that Husni visited for a mere quarter of an hour are dying to pounce on the imperialist- Zionist agent regime. We are confident that these forces will not aim their guns at their brothers, the men of al-Qadisiyah. We are confident that they and the people of Egypt are dying to uproot the submissive regime of Husni—the heir to the Camp David conspiracy and the ally of the United States and Zionism.

The editor noted Husni's contention that his anti-Iraq, anti-Arab stand is one of principle that has nothing to do with debt forgiveness by the United States and the oil regimes. The world knows that these debts have accumulated over many years and that Egypt is unable to repay them. Neither the United States nor its allies in the Gulf were willing to write them off before Husni's

government became so blatantly implicated over the past few months in the conspiracy against Iraq and the Arab nation.

The editor ridiculed Husni's contention that the regime of the betrayer of the two holy mosques led the way in giving Egypt political and economic support. He recalled Iraq's role in restoring Egypt's Arab league membership in the manner known to the Arab people of Egypt so as to advance supreme pan-Arab interests.

As for economic support, the editor observed that Iraq had been playing host to upwards of one million Egyptians with whom the Iraqis shared their bread, and who sent home billions of dollars annually. The Iraqis never viewed this as a favor to their Egyptian brothers.

The Arab affairs editor wondered that Husni should talk about principles and accuse Iraq and Jordan of engaging in vituperation and abuse. Such talk by Husni, he added, is a clear indication that Husni has neither read nor heard the clownishness and trumpeting practiced by the pens of Camp David controlling his media and who have been making ill-gotten gains and writing in the blood of the children of Arab Egypt. On Husni's reference to the opposition by a large number of Arab states to the transfer of the Arab League headquarters to Cairo, the editor said: It is only natural that honorable Arabs should not want the Arab League to be turned into a tool of the U.S. Administration. The editor asked how honorable Arabs could accept an Arab League meeting to be convened under the Israeli flag and how such a meeting could express the will of the member countries and remain unaffected by Husni's moods and interference by his senior aides who represent their imperialist and Zionist masters.

The INA Arab affairs editor concluded by saying: Egypt's proud people, who are pained by the injustice of this agent and his corrupt regime and their treason and betrayal of all Arab and Islamic values and sanctities, are looking forward to the hour of salvation when agent heads will roll and Egypt of Arabism retrieves its shining Arab face.

Source Cited on Payment of Egyptian Workers

JN2110094090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Cairo, 21 Oct (INA)—An Iraqi official has denied the reports carried by Egyptian newspapers that Iraq has decided to transfer the accruals of the Egyptian workers in Iraq to Jordanian banks instead of transferring them to the al-Rafidayn Bank in Cairo.

An official source at the Iraqi Embassy in Cairo affirmed that the reports published on the issue are totally groundless and without foundation. The source added that Iraq has not halted the payment of the accruals of the brother Egyptian workers at will and of its own volition. He said this payment of accruals was halted when the United States and its Western allies froze Iraqi assets and enforced an unjust economic blockade on Iraq.

The source indicated that Iraq transferred [to Egypt] a monthly sum of $45 million on a regular basis up to 2 August 1990. To meet its obligations, Iraq offered the Egyptian Government to repay the remaining accruals of Egyptian workers as well as the Egyptian companies' debts through crude oil supplies. This offer still stands, the source concluded.

Saddam Congratulates Pope on Anniversary

JN2210151090 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1155 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 22, INA—President Saddam Husayn sent a congratulatory telegram to Pope John Paul II of the Vatican on the 12th anniversary of his assumption of the Holy See.

In the telegram, President Husayn expressed hopes that peace and security would prevail in the region and the whole world amid an atmosphere of equality and justice.

Opposition To Defend Territorial Integrity

LD2010110190 Tehran IRNA in English 0851 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Qom, Central Prov., Oct. 20, IRNA—If Iraq is threatened with disintegration, all Iraqi opposition groups will rise to defend territorial integrity of Iraq, said an Iraqi opposition leader here Friday. Head of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) Hojjat ol-Eslam Baqir Hakim speaking to IRNA said that all Iraqi opposition groups including SAIRI are totally for territorial integrity of Iraq.

All the groups will fight against any such threat, he said referring to dangers that are threatening Iraq from outside. He further told IRNA that following the August 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and Iraqi acceptance of Iran's terms for peace on August 15, the Iraqi opposition groups have further coordinated their activities and have reached major agreements on fundamental issues. A statement is expected to be released in this connection in the near future.

The SAIRI head said that the Iraqi military men continue to desert the Army in unprecedented numbers and the Iraqi regime has started purges in upper echelons of the Army. He added that there were many problems facing Iraq and that the situation of the military forces were shaky.

Baghdad Opposes Transfer of Arab League to Cairo

JN2110202590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1920 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Oct (INA)—INA has learned that Iraq has informed the Arab League General Secretariat

of its position on the transfer of the Secretariat headquarters from Tunis to Cairo. This position is as follows:

Iraq supports the stance adopted by the countries of the Arab Maghreb Union as announced by the Union's foreign ministers during their meeting in Algiers on 19 October 1990. This proceeds from Iraq's belief that pan-Arab interests dictate in the present circumstances that the Secretariat headquarters remain in fraternal Tunisia, which has been hosting it for 11 years with full integrity and providing it with all factors of success and independence. These circumstances dictate that the implementation of all transfer procedures provided for in the Arab League Council resolution No. 4983 of March 1990 be postponed.

Iraq's position proceeds from sincere appreciation for the fact that the current Arab situation will prevent the Arab League from performing its pan-Arab duties if its headquarters were to be moved to Cairo because the hosting country must be characterized by neutrality and objectivity.

Saddam Chairs RCC Meeting; Speaker Attends

JN2210135390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1344 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Oct (INA)—President Saddam Husayn today chaired a Revolution Command Council [RCC] meeting. Political developments on Arab and international arenas were discussed during the meeting. The National Assembly speaker and the minister of culture and information attended the meeting.

Biography of New Minister of State Detailed

JN2110200490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1903 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Oct (INA)—A presidential decree was issued here today appointing Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf as minister of state for foreign affairs. Muhammad al-Sahhaf had been Iraq's ambassador to Italy.

It is worth mentioning that Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf, minister of state for foreign affairs, was born in the city of al-Hillah in the Babil Governorate and was graduated from the English Language section of the Faculty of Letters at the University of Baghdad in 1961-1962. He was appointed director general of the television and radio station in 1968, where he served until 1974. He was also appointed head of the Political Department at the Foreign Ministry in 1980 and then became a Foreign Ministry under secretary in 1983. He has also served as Iraq's ambassador to India, the United Nations, Sweden, and Italy.

Ban on Arabs Entering Jerusalem Continues

TA2210174690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 22 oct 90

[Text] The entry of Arabs from the territories into Jerusalem will be banned again tomorrow. Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that the decision was made this evening at a meeting of the police commissioner, Jerusalem police commanders, and senior officers in national headquarters. The decision was made due to the high tension still existing in the town. The expanded police deployment will also continue in other parts of the country. The roadblocks set up to inspect those wishing to cross the Green Line from Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip will continue tomorrow, and the vehicles will be searched. The national police command said that the steps will be reviewed again tomorrow.

Five residents of Judaea and Samaria were wounded in disturbances today. Our correspondent Hasan Abu-Ziyad reports that the most serious incident was in Janin, where youths threw stones and bottles. An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol dispersed the riot, and a 40-year-old resident of the town was wounded. He later died in 'Afula Hospital.

Additional Stabbings, Attacks Reported

Soldier Attacked in Khan Yunus

TA2210061990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldier who was standing at the gate of his base in Khan Yunus was stabbed by an Arab visitor from Jordan last night. He sustained slight injuries and received medical treatment on the spot. Another soldier opened fire, wounding the assailant, who was taken to the Ashqelon Hospital with moderately serious injuries. This was reported by our correspondent Hasan Abu-Ziyad.

Jerusalem Resident Attacked

TA2210113690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpts] In the north Jerusalem neighborhood of Neve Ya'aqov, a 46-year-old Jewish man was stabbed by a young Arab this morning. He was lightly wounded and taken to Hadassah's Mount Scopus Hospital. Large police and military forces are currently searching for the assailant, who fled the scene. Steve Linde reports:

Forty-six-year-old Moshe Qoren of Herzliyya was delivering meat to a supermarket in the center of Neve Ya'aqov. A young Arab man working as a messenger at the supermarket attacked him while he was in his van. [passage omitted]

Qoren was apparently stabbed with a bayonet and taken to Hadassah's Mount Scopus Hospital. The hospital spokesman said his wounds were slight, and he will probably be released this afternoon. Witnesses say the Arab assailant pulled off his shoes and his work overalls and fled in the direction of the Arab villages north of the capital. Local residents chased after him, and they were joined by soldiers, who fired in the air toward the attacker.

Large police and military forces are conducting a search for the assailant, who is said to live in a village close to Neve Ya'aqov. The police say they know the man's identity and are confident he will be apprehended.

Soldier Attacked in Rafah

TA2210125890 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpts] A soldier serving in the Civil Administration's Rafah District was attacked by a Rafah resident wielding an ax this morning. He sustained very slight head injuries, but still required some stitches and had to be taken to Soroka Medical Center in Beersheba.

The assailant arrived at the Civil Administration building this morning for an arranged meeting. Immediately upon entering the room, he pulled an ax which he had concealed under his clothing and tried to attack the soldier. An officer and another soldier who were in the same room came to the rescue and attacked the assailant. The security forces are currently investigating the circumstances of the event.

The search goes on for the resident of Hizma, near the Neve Ya'aqov neighborhood of Jerusalem, who stabbed Moshe Qoren in the neighborhood supermarket this morning. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] imposed a curfew on Hizma. [passage omitted]

Our correspondent Udi Segal reports that disturbances have erupted over the past few hours in various Judaea and Samaria locations. A Janin resident suffering serious injuries arrived at the 'Afula Hospital. The IDF is investigating a possible link between his injury and the local disturbances.

In Tulkarm, a 21-year-old youth was wounded in the chest by a rubber bullet. He was transferred to al-Rafidiyah Hospital in Nabulus and is reported in medium condition.

The IDF imposed a curfew on the al-Duhayshah refugee camp near Bethlehem following riots and stoning incidents. Our correspondent reports that the riots apparently began following reports spread by hostile elements that Israelis allegedly killed 11 Arabs in Kefar Sava and Yafo.

A Nabulus youth was apprehended in Bene Beraq today as he was trying to set fire to a field of thorns. He was caught by the Border Police unit deployed in the Tel Aviv area as he was trying to start the fire in a field on Aharonowitz Street, corner of Hayarden Street, in Bene Beraq. This report was filed by 'Ido Baum.

Attempt on Policeman Fails

TA2210184090 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1830 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] There has been another stabbing attempt in Jerusalem: A 23-year-old Arab resident of the territories attempted to stab a policeman in the area of Ha'atzma'ut Garden in downtown Jerusalem a short while ago. The policeman was not hurt, and the assailant was detained. This was reported by our correspondent 'Ido Shargil.

Two Female Soldiers Stabbed

TA2310092190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Two female soldiers were stabbed by an Arab this morning at Allonim Junction, near Qiryat Tiv'on. They were hospitalized at Rambam Hospital in Haifa. One of them sustained slight injuries, while the other's condition is slightly worse. The assailant was wounded and caught.

Our correspondents Yo'el Dar and Yo'av Aviv report that the two girls were standing at a soldiers' pick-up station trying to hitch a ride when a truck, bearing a license plate identifying the car as coming from the territories, stopped near them. The driver got out of the vehicle, pulled a knife, stabbed the soldiers several times, and fled. Civilians and soldiers who were at the site chased and caught him. He is currently being interrogated at Ha'emeq Hospital in 'Afula. It turns out that he is a resident of Janin and that he came to the junction specifically to attack Jews. The police have begun searching the scene of the attack to ascertain that it involved only a solitary assailant.

Arab Injures Two With Hammer

TA2310154590 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Two Jews were injured in Ashqelon after an Arab resident of the Gaza Strip attacked them with a hammer. They were hospitalized in Barzilay Hospital in moderate condition. Our correspondents David Regev and Shim'on Vilna'i report that a Border Police patrol from Gaza managed to capture the assailant south of Ashqelon; he was hiding in an orchard. He admitted perpetrating the attack, claiming he did so in revenge for the killing of his friend in Gaza. The attacker worked in the Itziq locksmith shop in Ashqelon and assaulted the owner of the shop and a customer.

The Arab who stabbed the female soldiers at Allonim junction today was transferred a short while ago from Ha'emeq Hospital in 'Afula to Rambam Hospital in Haifa due to his serious injuries. Our correspondent Shula Schmerling reports that doctors at Ha'emeq Hospital diagnosed him as suffering from a head injury and he was transferred unconscious to Rambam Hospital and accompanied by a doctor and a policeman.

An inquiry conducted by the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] into the circumstances of the incident discovered that the two armed soldiers who were eye-witnesses to the attack at Allonim junction purposely shot off target, as there were many civilians at the scene and innocent bystanders may have been hurt. The soldiers testified that they fired warning shots and then rushed the assailant and helped to capture him.

A soldier was injured in a stone-throwing incident in Dayr al-Balah. He received treatment at the hospital in Beersheba and was sent back to his unit. A young woman from Bene Beraq complained to police that an Arab attacked her while she was using a public phone booth on Modi'in street. She claimed that the Arab tried to strangle her, but fled when she screamed. The police have launched a manhunt. Our correspondent reports that the young woman required no medical aid.

Female students from a local high school rioted in Tulkarm. Troops dispersed the girls with tear gas. The high school in al- Birah has been closed for a week as a result of disturbances.

Arens on Efforts To Foil Further Murder Attempts

TA2310055090 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens says Israel will not tolerate murderous attacks or attempts to harm civilians. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will take action to penalize the elements behind these acts. The defense minister also said that the security forces will increase their alertness and that every effort will be made to ban the entry into Israel of employees from the territories who have a record of terrorist activity. Our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe heard these and other remarks of Minister Arens:

[Begin recording] [Arens] We will increase alertness and will also make every effort to ban the entry into Israeli settlements of people whom we know to have been members of terrorist organizations or who engaged in terrorist activity. As I said, however, this in itself is insufficient; the alertness will have to extend beyond that, because it is definitely possible that a man who had never before participated in terrorist activity, who did not belong to a terrorist organization, or who do not appear on our lists may still show up in one of our settlements and try to carry out the type of murder attempt we saw two days ago in Jerusalem.

Every effort should be made, as I am sure it will be, within the resources at our disposal, to reinforce the police presence in Jerusalem. I believe emphasis should again be placed on the Civil Guard and on increasing public alertness.

[Menashe] Is the IDF preparing to prevent further escalation in the territories as well?

[Arens] We are definitely preparing for that. We know that Saddam Husayn's supporters and the terrorist organizations strongly desire to prove that the intifadah is

alive and making progress. We are aware of the frustration these organizations have felt in the past few months. They feared the intifadah might be on the wane, and today they want to demonstrate that this is not the case. Naturally, we are preparing to foil these schemes and will do whatever is necessary.

[Menashe] Will you impose stiffer regulations on departure from the territories?

[Arens] We will first of all make sure every effort is made to prevent people who we know had previously engaged in terrorist activity from entering our settlements.

[Menashe] Is there no room, following the murders in Jerusalem, for a change in the rules of engagement?

[Arens] These regulations are very clear. Every person—not only a soldier or policeman, but every civilian who feels that his life is in jeopardy—may—in fact is duty-bound to—open fire.

[Menashe] Meaning no change at this point?

[Arens] There is no need for that.

[Menashe] It seems that the intifadah has recaptured headlines and that the deterioration in the situation may play into the hands of Saddam Husayn, who wanted to establish a link between this and the Gulf and to divert attention from the Gulf.

[Arens] There is no doubt that here we have witnessed a deliberate attempt by certain elements among the Palestinian population in the territories to assist Saddam Husayn in refocusing world attention on the Palestinian problem. We have been aware of attempts to do so over the past few weeks. This is a problem which we will have to contend with for the next few weeks, but we will do so. [end recording]

Netanyahu on World Response to Stabbings

TA2210114390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said he is not disappointed with the American response to the murder of the three Israelis. He expects an official response from Washington later today. However, in an interview with Jack Katzenell, the deputy foreign minister said the rest of the world was showing a callous indifference and a double standard, and this applied particularly to the UN Organization.

[Begin recording] [Netanyahu] For the reaction has been scant, if any. It's been characterized by a pervasive silence, and I think that that reflects the double-faced and cynical attitude regarding the events in our area and regarding Israel.

[Katzenell] Whatever my personal feelings and yours, would you not agree that the riot on the Temple Mount, with its 21 or 22 dead, was a more spectacular event, if I can put it that way, than the murder of three people which, in a violent world, seems almost commonplace?

[Netanyahu] Well, there are more spectacular events taking place, for example: the death of hundreds and the murder of dozens—the wanton murder of dozens—of hand-cuffed soldiers in Beirut; that's a fairly spectacular event. I'm sure you didn't hear a great cacophony of condemnations around the world coming from that. So any way you look at it, there is no objective or balanced assessment of the events in Jerusalem. In fact, it's imbalanced and unjust.

[Katzenell] I gather that the Security Council is going to meet again to discuss the Temple Mount affair in light of Israel's refusal to receive the UN delegation. Is there something that Israel should be saying to the Security Council now?

[Netanyahu] Yes, I think what we're saying is: Do the job that you're supposed to do. Try to act to maintain security and stability where it's most needed in the Middle East. Israel will know how to do that within Israel's borders, but what we would expect to see is a new United Nations, not the old United Nations of automatic Israel-bashing. That's not going to be good for peace in the Middle East or for the United Nations. [end recording]

Foreign Ministry Notes 'Shock' Over Sham'un Death

TA2110174190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Israel expresses shock and horror over the assassination of Dany Sham'un, a Christian Lebanese leader. Sham'un, his wife, and their two sons were killed this morning in the area controlled by the Syrian Army.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem has told our political correspondent Arye Golan that unfortunately the world public has failed to react appropriately to the killing of leaders from all the sects in Lebanon by Syrian soldiers or people acting on their behalf. Israel calls on the world public, the leaders of the enlightened countries, and religious figures of all faiths to condemn the wave of murders in areas controlled by the Syrian Army in Lebanon and to put an end to the spree of murders.

Shamir Vows Jerusalem Will Overcome Violence

TA2210124490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir appeared at today's meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, which dealt with the developments in Jerusalem. Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen reports from the Knesset:

Speaking at the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, the prime minister said that the police special operations unit cadet [who was killed by an Arab attacker on 21 October] should have fired at his assailant on the basis of the Torah

principle that when attacked by a killer, a man should hasten to kill his attacker. Israel's enemies, said the prime minister, have exacerbated their attempts to launch attacks against Jews in Jerusalem and to impair Israel's position, but they will fail. We triumph by reinforcing our security measures; we will overcome every difficulty until Jerusalem is outside the circle of violence. Here is an excerpt from the prime minister's remarks:

[Begin Shamir recording] An awful atmosphere of incitement prevails nowadays in the Arab world; there is an illusion that salvation will come from Baghdad when the Arabs will rid themselves of the Zionist tumor once and for all. When they see that nothing of what they had hoped for has materialized, however, they seek release in the occasional murder. This is not good; we regret every drop of blood, but this will pass. We will always find the right way to defend ourselves against and overcome these attacks. If today's means and measures are insufficient, we will increase and reinforce them. There is no fear that the Jewish people will not overcome this wave of hostility and terror, as it has others. [end recording]

Replying to a query, the prime minister said that the cabinet has not failed and that it is taking steps to deal with the difficult situation in which the country has found itself. This is not the first time we are in such a situation: Jews have been attacked in Jerusalem in the past, and there have been political attacks on Israel. We have always overcome these attacks, and we will this time, too.

Criticizes 'Appeasement' by U.S.

TA2210150390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen reports that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, addressing the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee today, said that Israel had hoped that the United States would prevent the discussions at the UN Security Council, but under the influence of their Western allies, such as Britain and France, the Americans decided to appease the Arabs and not accept an orderly report on what took place on Temple Mount.

The prime minister said that in the past few days, there has been a desire in the United States to avoid conflict with Israel.

Mr. Shamir also said that some 111,000 immigrants had arrived from the USSR by mid-October, and that by the end of the year the number will reach 180,000.

Emphasizes Jerusalem's Status

TA2210161390 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Report by Dov Gilhar]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] At the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee session today, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir criticized the U.S. Administration. He said: Remarks made by the administration personnel made things worse during the first days after the Temple Mount events. This was not the first time that the U.S. stand toward Israel was not right. We have not always been kissing and hugging.

Shamir made clear—and thus placed the issue back on the agenda—that East Jerusalem is not included in the assurances Minister Levi gave to Baker not to use the loan money in the territories.

[Begin Shamir recording] We are not discussing Jerusalem or any other place, at all. The issue in question is whether U.S. funds would be spent here or there. The way we see it, Jerusalem is an integral part of the State of Israel, and is not a part of the lands of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Labor Knesset Member Moshe Shahal asked Shamir: Why do you not resign? You have been in power for six months, and there is not a single area that is not deteriorating or on the decline.

Shamir replied: A serious effort has been made here to convince me to quit, but it has failed. When I look around me at the possible results and at those who could replace me, I am worried.

No-Confidence Motion Against Government Defeated

TA2210154790 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1530 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Here are the results of the vote on the no-confidence motions in the Knesset. The motions were rejected by a small majority of 53 to 51. Some of the Agudat Yisra'el Knesset members [MK's] voted for the no-confidence motions, but all SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] MK's supported the government, except for Arye Gamli'el, who was absent from the vote. Dov Gilhar reports from the Knesset:

As you reported, the vote was 53 to 51 against the motions, with two abstentions. The surprise was that two Agudat Yisra'el MK's, Feldman and Porush, supported the no-confidence motions, contrary to Likud forecasts. The Likud believed that all Agudat Yisra'el MK's would abstain. Moledet was divided when MK Rehav'am Ze'evi expressed no confidence in the government, while his colleague Ya'ir Sprinzak abstained, contrary to Ze'evi's own forecast. The entire SHAS faction supported the government. [passage omitted]

New Unit To Advise on National Defense

TA2110064990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Report by army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe]

[Text] Brigadier General Yequti'el Mor, the defense minister's military secretary, completed his term officially on Friday. He is being replaced by Brigadier General Yirmi Olmert. Gen. Mor, who comes from military intelligence, was previously commander of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] Foreign Liaison Office, and spent most of his military service in the Intelligence Branch, including the research department. In the past 18 months he has been the defense minister's military secretary and previously served former Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens appointed Gen. Mor to head a special unit which began to operate from his office. In the coming days Gen. Mor will begin to recruit his staff. It will be a small unit which is to be made up of two or three senior officers, either from the standing army or the reserves, and national defense professionals. The team, which will begin operating soon, will advise the defense minister on strategy, national defense issues, procurement policy, and weapons systems development, in order to hear an additional point of view to that of the General Staff. Such issues could be submarines, missile boats, and Patriot missiles.

Defense sources stressed that the unit will coordinate with David 'Ivri, the Defense Ministry director general. There was no need to coordinate the unit with the chief of staff, as it is not meant to replace the General Staff, the sources said. They also said there is no intention to impose on the chief of staff's powers or to set up a national defense unit similar to one which operated when Ari'el Sharon was defense minister. There is no doubt that such a body can be of great assistance to the defense minister in making important decisions which often involve hundreds of millions of dollars. There is no reason whatsoever for any friction between the new unit and the General Staff.

Baraq on Gulf Situation, Jerusalem Stabbings

TA2210092690 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 22 Oct 90 p 2

[Report by military correspondent On Levi]

[Text] Major General Ehud Baraq, the deputy chief of staff, yesterday warned the Iraqi ruler, saying that "Israel will not tolerate Iraqi attacks and will not accept any change in Jordan. Saddam is quite familiar with our attitude toward changes in Jordan, he said. Since technically Saddam can launch some weapon at us, we must prepare for such an eventuality."

Gen. Baraq also said that, at this stage, it appears that Saddam Husayn understands very well the import of any attempt to harm Israel. He claimed that "Saddam Husayn is well aware of the calamity and serious damage he and his regime might suffer should he attack Israel. Let us hope Saddam will continue to correctly comprehend things."

The deputy chief of staff said that, at this stage, the U.S.-led coalition is gaining strength and tightening the blockade, waiting for the results to show. Iraq, on the other hand, is entrenching its positions in Kuwait and along the borders and is pursuing its intensive campaign of the Iraqization of Kuwait. According to the deputy chief of staff, the central question at the moment is whether the effects of the U.S. blockade will be felt before the complex coalition formed by the Americans disintegrates. Gen. Baraq stated that the blockade is not a short-term process and that, according to assessments in Israel, it is a lengthy affair which could last several months.

According to the deputy chief of staff, no one knows if or when Saddam Husayn will initiate a move leading to a deterioration in the Gulf. He may do so if he feels he is about to be attacked or if the blockade pushes him into a corner.

Gen. Baraq asserted that the Gulf crisis could take one of two courses: The status quo may be maintained for a long time, ultimately yielding a political compromise; or a state of war may result from some initiative or deterioration in the situation. One of the achievements of this option would be the dictating of terms to the Iraqi leader. There is also a third possibility: the elimination of Saddam Husayn. This, however, does not appear technically feasible.

The deputy chief of staff further stated that Israel must always be militarily ready, whatever the situation. He claimed that the defense budget offers the answer to any concrete threat. "At this stage, the strength of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] is a precondition for Israel's security."

[Eytan Rabin, reporting on Baraq's remarks on page A3 of Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 22 October, adds that "referring last night to the attack in Jerusalem, Gen. Baraq said that the price will ultimately be exacted not only from the individual who held the dagger, but also from all those behind him. He said we must realize that we are embroiled in a bitter and prolonged struggle with the Palestinians, one which requires nerves of steel and self-control. In this struggle, the other side will also win on occasion and will only be defeated through our determination and steadfastness."

[Baraq also "foresees USSR-U.S. cooperation in handling the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which would lead to an outcome that would be forced on the parties."]

Defense Pleased With U.S. Senate Move

TA2310074690 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0730 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] The defense establishment has expressed satisfaction with the U.S. Senate's decision to stock in Israel weapons worth $700 million. Our army affairs correspondent Amir Fink points out that during his last visit to Washington, Defense Minister Moshe Arens presented the list of equipment Israel was asking the United States to transfer to Israel. Minister Arens emphasized to Secretary of Defense

Cheney and senators Israel's need for additional U.S. weapons. Arens' talks in Washington focused mainly on the transfer of Patriot missile batteries, F-15's, Sikorsky CH-53's, and an increase in U.S. weapon stocks in Israel, as the Senate approved yesterday.

IDF Seals Home of Suspect in Baq'a Killings

TA2210074790 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0730 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Last night the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] sealed the home of the Arab youth who is suspected of perpetrating the murders in Baq'a. The suspect is 'Amr Sa'id Salah Abu-Sirhan.

In addition to Abu-Sirhan's home, the IDF sealed two other houses in 'Ubaydiyah, near Bethlehem. They belong to residents who were members in a local squad which was uncovered recently.

'Terrorist' Squad Uncovered in Barta'a

TA2110174390 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] The security forces have uncovered a large terrorist organization in the village of Barta'a in west Samaria. Among other things, the squad members are being charged with the possession of cold steel weapons, purchasing uniforms, and holding military marches. Eight people have been detained so far, and more detentions are expected. Our military correspondent Amir Fink has the details:

The eight defendants come from the (Kabha) family, one of the largest families of west Barta'a. They are 15 to 20 years old. All of them are being charged with membership and activity in a large illegal organization. So far, eight members have been detained, but more detentions are expected.

It is worth noting that Barta'a is located inside the Green Line, and its residents' loyalty to the State of Israel has so far never been questioned. The discovery of the squad is a cause of concern for the various security organizations. The eight have been charged with joining the Fatah-Revolutionary Council squad from the nearby eastern Barta'ah, beyond the Green Line. They operated in western Barta'a while masked, painted graffiti—mainly in support of Saddam Husayn—hoisted PLO flags, and accumulated cold steel weapons. They are also charged with erecting roadblocks in Barta'a, and—perhaps the most surprising of all—purchasing uniforms and holding military marches inside the village, which is inside the Green Line.

In the charge sheet, Captain Yaron Levi, the military prosecutor, claims that some of them had planned to set fire to forests in the area of their village. One of the defendants is charged with recruiting the other seven. The detention of six of them was today extended until further decision. Two will be tried by a juvenile court.

Jerusalem's Deputy Mufti Released on Bail

TA2210163590 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 22 oct 90

[Text] Muhammad al-Jamal, the deputy mufti, who was detained on the day after the Temple Mount riots [8 October], was released in Jerusalem today on a bail of 20,000 shekels. Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that, in addition to the bail, the deputy mufti had to promise that he would not get involved in incitement and unrest. The police investigation into his actions continues.

Peres Discusses Gulf Crisis, Regional Issues

JN1910202190 Cairo MAYU in Arabic 15 Oct 90 pp 3, 11

["Text" of interview with Shim'on Peres, leader of the Israeli Labor Party, by Khamis Abu-al-'Afiyah in Tel Aviv; date not given]

[Text] [Abu-al-'Afiyah] Are you and your party satisfied with the government and its handling of everything related to the Gulf crisis?

[Peres] Israel is not involved in everything related to the Gulf crisis. Its friends have not asked it to interfere. Of course, Israel's friends do not want to see it interfere in the Gulf crisis. Hence, we do not have any mission in everything related to the Gulf crisis. I still believe, however, that we have to tackle the Palestine question and find a political solution to it. But it remains to be said that the two issues (the Palestine question and the Gulf crisis) should not be linked. They have to be dealt with separately.

[Abu-al-'Afiyah] Mr. Peres, do you think there will be the use of force, or that there will be a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis? As an Israeli, how do you want the Gulf crisis to end?

[Peres] I believe that the crisis will be decisively settled. I do not think that there will be a compromise solution. I do not see signs of any other eventuality, neither from the U.S. side nor from the Iraqi side. The question right now is the following: Will the decisive settlement of the issue be consummated without military intervention? As far as I am concerned, this is my preference. I believe that we should not rule out this possibility. I believe that Saddam Husayn made the mistake of his life once again. He made his first mistake when he started his war against the Iranians at a time when the Iranian Army was in total disarray. He fought them for eight years, during which he used missiles and gases and caused the death of 1 million people, all of whom were Muslims. As for the end result, it was nothing.

Now, he made another mistake by his occupation of Kuwait, despite the fact that he had promised President Mubarak that he would not start a new war and despite the statements that he made to President Mubarak saying that the Iraq-Iran war had taught him patience. It

seems, however, that he deceived everybody. Now, the world cannot accept such an unreliable man whose word cannot be trusted and who is looking all the time for the most lethal weapons to seize the world by its neck and control oil prices by increasing and decreasing them at will. The world cannot allow this man to cause unemployment and bring about inflation.

[Abu-'Afiyah] The Alignment is the party that proposed a federation or confederation with Jordan as a possible solution to the Palestine question. This proposal was known as "the Jordanian option." I addressed the following question to Mr. Peres: Now that Jordan has allied itself with Iraq in the Gulf crisis, is "the Jordanian option" still there and valid?

[Peres] The issue is not "the Jordanian option." The issue is the question (the reference here is to the Palestine question). We should identify the issue with which we are dealing. We should make a decision on the issue that is facing us. Then, we can decide on "the option" to be advocated.

The Palestinians are present in Judaea and Samaria, in Gaza Strip, and in Jordan. There can be a single solution to the whole Palestine question. Separate solutions are also possible. I still believe that a comprehensive solution to the Palestine-Jordan issue is the best and practical solution. I am speaking from a Jordanian-Palestinian-Israeli perspective. Meanwhile, King Husayn is in a big impasse. Nobody can guess or predict how he will come out of this impasse. As for how Jordan will take part in efforts to resolve the Palestine question, this will become clearer when the Gulf crisis is resolved.

Nowadays, Jordan is facing a very difficult economic crisis. As for its political life, it (Jordan) has reached a dead end.

[Abu-al-'Afiyah] What is your opinion on the remarkable rapprochement between Egypt and the United States, which is represented by canceling debts, supplying Egypt with weapons, and other things?

[Peres] I bless this. It is wrong to say that there is no party to speak with in the Middle East.

The Gulf crisis has proven that there are two centers in the Middle East: A center for violence in Baghdad; and another responsible center in Cairo. This crisis has highlighted the stability and leadership of President Mubarak. I am very pleased because President Mubarak's strategy for peace is becoming stronger in the Arab world. I believe that the phenomenon of Saddam Husayn will not last long.

Believe me, I am very pleased at the financial support presented to Egypt. Egypt is facing difficulties. The war was very costly. We are interested in a prosperous Egypt, not an Egypt in difficulties. Therefore, the rapprochement between the United States and Egypt is positive. Communism is fading out in the Middle East and the democratic option is penetrating in its place here; this change is a good sign.

If you asked me what is the best guarantee for peace, I would say democracy.

[Abu-al-'Afiyah] What is your opinion on Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's stand on the Gulf crisis? And is there a possibility for withdrawal from the Golan in exchange for peace with Syria?

[Peres] At this stage, I believe that President al-Asad wants to settle scores, because of the Iraqi support for some factions in Lebanon. I believe that the Syrian president is a smart man. He is aware that the Russians are moving out of the picture, therefore, he is searching for rapprochement with America. The rapprochement with America means easing the sharp atmosphere. But, has he reached the conclusion that it is possible to go beyond this? I do not know. I believe that Hafiz al-Asad alone will decide after the picture of the Gulf crisis becomes clear.

[Abu-al-'Afiyah] Your reaction to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's proposal to call on President al-Asad to hold peaceful negotiations with Israel was strange. You said: Does the prime minister believe that al-Asad will come to speak about Bitar [name as published] al-Quds, an Israeli soccer team. What will be the topic of the talks, then?

[Peres] I am confident that President al-Asad will discuss the issue of the Golan.

[Abu-al-'Afiyah] In this case, what is your proposal?

[Peres] Each party to the talks present its proposals, and the negotiations will revolve around these proposals. Israel will come with its stands, and Syria also will come with its proposals. In the negotiations, we will search for ways to overcome the existing contradiction in our and their stands.

[Abu-al-'Afiyah] Do you believe that the continuation of the Hashemite throne [in Jordan] is a pure Israeli interest?

[Peres] First, I would like to say that there is an Israeli interest in the noninterference in the internal affairs of any country. If you ask me, what do people pray for in the synagogue, I would say each one prays his own prayer. And if you ask, should Israel intervene effectively to change the regime in Jordan, the answer is categorically no. I prefer that stability continues in Jordan. We have no objective in shaking the Hashemite regime in Jordan. If, for example, I have to choose between Husayn and 'Arafat, I, of course, would prefer King Husayn.

[Abu-al'Afiyah] Mr. Peres, you told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee two weeks ago that Gaza is a cancer in the body or heart of the state. What do you mean by that?

[Peres] I did not say that. I quoted Ben-Gurion, who said that Gaza is a cancer in the map of the state. Gaza has no vast area of land and it is overpopulated. It is only 350 square kilometers, but has 650,000 inhabitants, who have no water resources, no land, no sources of food, and no passports. So, what do we want from Gaza? What I said is that we should seek a way to enable Gazans to run their own affairs as soon as possible, provided they do not bring weapons into Gaza or practice terrorism.

[Abu-al-'Afiyah] What about the West Bank and East Jerusalem?

[Peres] Let us distinguish between the two. Regarding Jerusalem, we can say that our position is well known. Jerusalem is part of the State of Israel. Regarding Judaea and Samaria, I believe we should think about autonomy as a first phase, and five years later, the citizens will choose the solution they consider the best.

[Abu-al-'Afiyah] Mr. Peres, some people say that at the end of the Gulf crisis, the United States will pressure Israel into making concessions and removing the factors that may ignite a war in the region. Do you believe this?

[Peres] I believe that from the moment the United States and the Soviet Union agreed to end their dispute, the Americans and the Soviets decided that they would not allow regional problems to create new disputes for them. In the past, regional problems have fueled disputes between the Soviets and the Americans, and their disputes also fed regional problems. I believe that the Americans and the Soviets are eager to settle, rather than exploit their disputes. Therefore, I believe that the United States will do its best to find a solution to the Arab-Israeli dispute.

[Abu-al-'Afiyah] The Jewish people suffered much from Nazism. I asked Mr. Peres about his opinion on the unification of the two parts of Germany.

[Peres] Unified Germany does not constitute a military threat to Europe or the world, although some sides urge the United States to keep its forces in unified Germany. German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said: "Germany is our homeland and Europe is our future." I believe that Nazism cannot be reactivated as a military phenomenon.

[Abu-al-'Afiyah] This is the last question. Mr. Peres, do you want to retire?

[Peres] No, I do not. He who retires will lose his role and he who has a role will not retire. The nature of the post to be assigned to me is not that important. What is important to me is the role I will play in settling the dispute with the Palestinians and to promote the Middle East economy by establishing a Middle East market like the EEC.

Iraqi Consul Notes Visa, Travel Restrictions

Cites Deadline

JN2310072790 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Oct 90 pp 1, 14

[By Malak al-Tall]

[Text] Jordanians with valid residence permits for Iraq, including the Governorate of Kuwait, can travel without getting visas from the Iraqi Embassy. Mr Sabbar 'Abbas al-Ahbabi, the Iraqi consul in Amman adds: Those who have no residence permits will not be able to travel to Iraq. He indicated that this is a temporary measure due to the current circumstances, and as soon as things return to normal it will be scrapped. Jordanians will then be able to travel to Iraq without a visa.

The consul said Jordanians, Yemenis, and Sudanese may enter Iraq if they have residence permits. Egyptians, however, have to have visas before they enter Iraq. This is to apply reciprocity, inasmuch as Iraqis are required to have visas to enter Egypt.

He said the deadline for granting visas to residents is 23 October, after which date no visas will be issued. Anyone who fails to enter Iraq and Kuwait before this date will forfeit their right to residency.

Al-Ahbabi pointed out that the Iraqi Embassy issues 500-800 entry visas to Kuwait daily. The Consular Section processes applications from Jordanians and other Arabs over a 12-hour period, he said.

These rules apply to all Arab nationals who were in Kuwait prior to 2 August.

Iraqi Consul Interviewed

JN2310074290 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 23 Oct 90 p 3

[By JORDAN TIMES Staff Reporter, Maryam M. Shahin]

[Excerpts] Amman—All Jordanians who are not in Iraq or Kuwait by 12 p.m. Tuesday, Oct, 23 will risk losing residence and work permits, a senior Iraqi Embassy official said Monday.

"All those wishing to keep their residence and work permits for Iraq or the province of Kuwait should be in the territories by Oct. 23," said Sabbarr 'Abbas al-Ahbabi, consul at the Iraqi Embassy in Amman in an interview with the Jordan Times. [passage omitted]

The Iraqi Embassy official explained that a "special permit extension" had been made for the Arab nationals working in Iraq. "As of Aug. 2 no one was allowed in or out of Iraq without a permit, but the government decided Aug. 23, that they would give Arab nationals a two-month period to decide if they wanted to stay in Iraq and the Kuwaiti province or leave. That time period ends Oct. 23," said al-Ahbabi.

Although all Jordanians and other Arab nationals were permitted to enter Iraq without a visa even before the Arab Cooperation Council, which groups Iraq, Jordan, Yemen and Egypt in an economic union, was founded, that will end "temporarily" as of Oct. 23, according to the Iraqi embassy official.

Between Nov. 5 and 7, the Iraqi government will conduct a population survey. Al-Ahbabi said he was not certain about what will happen after the survey is taken. "We will wait for further instructions from Baghdad," he said. [passage omitted]

Official Views Number of Gulf Evacuees in Camps

JN2310123890 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 23 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] Amman, PETRA—The number of people in the evacuees camps as of yesterday morning reached 2,646 Asian evacuees while the number of those who arrived through Al-Ruwayshid border post over the past 24 hours reached 4,719 evacuees.

Salamah Hammad, Interior Ministry secretary general and head of the committee for taking care of the evacuees, has stated that the camps in the Al-Azraq area have been completely evacuated and the committee is currently concerned with building hangars [preceding wording in English] in these camps in preparation for winter and to be able to receive any new flow of evacuees as a result of the prevailing state of affairs in the Gulf.

Ship Harassment Receiving 'Serious Examination'

JN2310064290 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 23 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Amman—The government is currently studying the issue of harassment to vessels heading for al-'Aqabah and will take appropriate measures as it will see fit, Minister of Transport Nabil Abu-al-Huda said Monday.

Following recurrent incidents in which vessels of different nationalities laden with goods imported by Jordan have been searched while heading for al-'Aqabah port, the government has decided to conduct a serious examination of the situation before announcing its reaction, said the minister in a statement to the Jordan Times and Al-Ra'y newspapers. In reply to a question on whether the government intended to lodge a complaint with the United Nations and the American administration.

"The Jordanian government regrets these irresponsible incidents committed by foreign naval forces and considers them as totally unjustified," said the minister.

Shipping agents in Jordan have expressed concern over the interception of al-'Aqabah-bound vessels carrying goods imported by Jordanian merchants.

They said that the search operations so far proved that Jordan was totally committed to the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions concerning sanctions

on Iraq but the foreign naval forces seem to be conducting such actions to cause harassment to Jordan's international trade.

Customs Official on Barring Goods to Iraq

JN2310065890 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 23 Oct 90 p 3

[By JORDAN TIMES staff reporter P.V. Vivekanand]

[Text] Amman—No truck laden with any kind of product has entered Iraq from Jordan since early Saturday when Jordan reinforced its adherence to the United Nations sanctions against Iraq to include food and medicine, and only empty vehicles, which will bring back expatriates' belongings, are being allowed to cross the northeastern border post at al-Ruwayshid, officials said Monday.

"The border security forces are under strict orders not to allow any kind of goods, including food and medicine, to cross the Jordanian border into Iraq," said a senior source at the Public Security Department (PSD). "Empty trucks with authorisation to bring back Jordanian expatriates' household goods and other personal effects are allowed to cross," said the source, speaking on condition of anoymity.

An official at the Ministry of Finance and Customs said the ban on goods entering Iraq through Jordanian territory or vice-versa was in place since early August when the Security Council adopted Resolution 661 imposing a trade embargo against Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait Aug. 2. "It is not a fresh order," said the official, "except that the authorities have been instructed to include food and medicine consignments in the ban."

"Another exception is oil from Iraq," the official noted. "We have informed the United Nations that Jordan has no choice but to procure Iraqi oil partly because Iraq is repaying its debts to Jordan in oil and partly because the two countries have a special pricing deal."

The official, who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, confirmed that several truckloads of food and medicines had been allowed into Iraq until early October, "when sudden questions were raised whether Resolution 661 did allow such shipments to Iraq."

Last week the government banned a convoy of food and milk contributed by the Jordanian public to Iraq and said the shipment would be cleared for passage only after clarification from the Security Council Sanctions Committee over Resolution 661. At least two shipments of medicines manufactured in Jordan were turned back from the border last week.

Clause C of Resolution 661 calls on United Nations member states to ban the "sale or supply by their nationals or from their territories or using their flag vessels of any commodities or products, including weapons or any other military equipment, whether or not originating in their territories but not including supplies intended strictly for medical purposes, in humanitarian circumstances, foodstuffs, to any person or body for the purpose of any business carried on in or operated from Iraq or Kuwait, any activity by their nationals or in their territories which promote or are calculated to promote such sale, or supply or use of such commodities or products."

According to an expert in international law, "there is no ambiguity in the resolution that food and medicine could be sent into Iraq." But, he added, the "crux of the matter is that it should be established that there is indeed a situation which warrants external humanitarian assistance before an external party can send in such goods."

"Apparently, the Americans are not willing to acknowledge that there is any shortage of milk and food in Iraq which warrants a definition of 'humanitarian circumstances' as cited in Resolution 661," added the expert.

"Until now, Jordan did not include food and medicine in its ban order," said a leading businessman. "But instances of such shipments, including the charity convoy of food and milk, were used by some, including the Americans, at the Security Council, to argue that Jordan was not abiding by the sanctions against Iraq when it actually came to discussing compensation for Jordan," he asserted. "It is not simply a question of an embarago against Iraq but also political pressure on Jordan."

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan said recently that Jordan was being "penalised by Saudi Arabia and the West" despite the Kingdom's strict adherence to the U.N. sanctions."

"Jordan is pushed into the Iraqi camp, into an extremist frame of mind," he said.

Although Jordan has secured pledges totalling about $400 million from West German and Japan to compensate for the Kingdom's losses resulting from the Gulf crisis and sanctions against Iraq, no assistance has actually been received.

The Japanese ambasador, Tadayuki Nonoyama, said Monday that he could not give any specific timeframe for Tokyo to deliver $100 million in soft loans promised to Jordan by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu earlir this month. "We are working hard to get the money to Amman," the Ambassador told the Jordan Times. He rejected as baseless reports that Japan was deliberately delaying the assistance to Jordan. Kaifu also promised another $150 million in two packages, under stricter terms, but no specifics on these have yet been discussed, according to the ambassador.

A West German source said earlier this week that there was no change in Bonn's commitment of $130 million in assistance to Jordan. The assistance should have reached Jordan by mid-October but "was delayed pending parliamentary approval," the source said. "The amount is not part of the actual government budget and therefore it

needs parliament endorsement," the source explained. "We hope it will be coming soon."

Jean Ripert, a special envoy of the United Nations secretary- general, said after a visit to Jordan and assessment of the Kingdom's economic situation that Amman needed immediate financial assistance rather than pledges. "Jordan needs aid today, not tomorrow," he said.

Urges Aid to Jordan

JN2310101990 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 2000 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] The Deputy Director of UN Development Program and Regional Director of Arab and European Regions at the UN Dr. Muhammad 'Abdallah Nur held a meeting with representatives of several Amman-based UN agencies to discuss the situation in Jordan. Our reporter Maha al-Sha'ir asked Mr. Nur on his evaluation of the situation.

[Begin recording] [Nur] It is fantastic how a small country like Jordan can handle the movement of something like 700,000—over 700,000 evacuees passing through. As someone from one of the international agencies told me today that none of these people, none of them, left this country hungry.

[Al-Sha'ir] Are you surprised about the world response to compensate Jordan?

[Nur] Well, I do not know if I am surprised, but I am disappointed. I am very disappointed. I think the world community ought to come to the side of Jordan because whatever the political situation is like, we are dealing with a humanitarian issue. And I think that humanitarian issues ought to be separated from political nuances. And we are dealing with a very, very humanitarian issue, which is not like a natural disaster when an earthquake happens, then you are dealing with your own nationals. Here, Jordan is dealing with nationals of other countries. I believe only a small proportion of Jordanians came back, something like 120,000 people have come back, Jordanians coming back. But the 700,000 plus who came are totally alien to this country. And then, I think I will go back in the strongest terms in our role as advocates on issues of this nature. I will certainly play my part. [end recording]

Hasan Receives French Parliamentary Delegation

JN1910144990 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Text] This morning, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan received at the Royal Hashemite Court a visiting French parliamentary delegation. They exchanged views on the Gulf crisis, with his highness pointing out Jordan's efforts on behalf of finding a peaceful solution to the crisis.

His highness also explained Jordan's economic squeeze as a consequence of its compliance with the UN Security Council resolutions on the Gulf crisis.

The French delegation praised Jordan's efforts to find a peaceful way out of the Gulf crisis. The meeting was attended by the French ambassador in Amman.

The French team comprises Jean-Francois Deniau, deputy for Union for French Democracy and (Michel Pierre Coy), secretary of the Foreign Affairs Committee at the French National Assembly.

Delegation Departs

JN2010180390 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] The French parliamentary delegation headed by Mr. Jean-Francois Deniau left Amman today for home after a three-day visit to Jordan, during which the delegation met with Crown Prince Hasan. They also met with the information minister and a number of deputies. They reviewed developments in the Gulf crisis and the Jordan's efforts to find a peaceful settlement to this crisis.

The delegation's visit to Jordan comes within a French plan to send a number of French parliamentary delegations to countries in the region for talks and to exchange opinions on the Gulf crisis and the appropriate means for solving it.

King Receives Nigerian Delegation, Talks Held

JN2210200890 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received a message today from Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida, which was conveyed to by (Alhaji Zakari Ibrahim), Nigerian minister of state for external affairs, when he was received by his majesty at the Royal Hashemite Court at noon today.

Official talks between the Nigerian minister, his delegation, and Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, were held at the Foreign Ministry this morning. More details in our reporter Khalil al-Qaryuti's dispatch from the Foreign Ministry:

[Begin Khalil recording] During the talks, headed on the Jordanian side by Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and (Alhaji Zakari Ibrahim), Nigerian minister of state for external affairs, the situation in the Middle East, namely developments in the Gulf crisis, were reviewed. At the beginning of the talks, al- Qasim explained Jordan's position, which is based on the need for a peaceful solution for the crisis, one that guarantees safeguarding the Arab nation's interests and spares it the possibilities of a confrontation and its very real dangers. Moreover, al-Qasim pointed to Jordan's continuing efforts to reach such a solution.

For his part, the Nigerian minister of state for external affairs presented his country's position on the crisis and stressed that it agrees with the Jordanian position, especially with regard to the need to resolve the Gulf crisis

through peaceful means. He said: The effects of a military confrontation will go beyond the region to other areas in the world, in addition to the detrimental effects it will have on the world economy. The visiting minister noted his government greatly appreciates His Majesty King Husayn's efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the crisis. He said: These efforts represent a wise and courageous position and a balanced and calm viewpoint on the conditions in the region. The Nigerian minister said that his country will continue contacts with the region's states to help promote a peaceful solution for the crisis.

The two sides reviewed aspects of bilateral relations and means to develop them. They also expressed their determination to achieve this as soon as possible. They agreed to continue contacts in this field between the concerned sides in both countries. [end recording]

Official Departs 22 Oct

JN2210201590 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] The Nigerian minister of state for external affairs left Amman at noon today following a two-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, he held talks with Jordanian officils on developing bilateral relations and means to promote them in all fields.

Editorial Examines U.S. Interests, Assistance

JN2310092590 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 23 Oct 90 Second Edition pp 1, 9

[Editorial: "They Will Pay the Price for Starving Us and Pushing Us to Radicalism"]

[Text] The U.S. Middle East policy has a long history of mistakes for which we paid an exorbitant price in human lives, and which affects political and developmental endeavors. Some of these mistakes were made due to misunderstandings and stupid advice offered by amateurish advisers. Others were made thanks to the arrogance displayed by Washington's position as a military superpower, which can cope with small losses but guarantee that its major interests will not be harmed.

Because of the repeated U.S. mistakes in Palestine, Lebanon, the Gulf, Iran, and Egypt, the region's history over the past three or four decades can be viewed from the position of misunderstanding, maltreatment, and assuming that this part of the world is part of the U.S. sphere of influence. Consequently, according to Washington's viewpoint, this part of the world will remain part of its sphere of influence. Likewise, Washington believes that this region will never free itself from their big stick.

However, it seems that the U.S. underestimates Arab power, which remains unused, and misunderstands the nationalist, pan-Arab, and religious sentiments in the Middle East might this time cause the United States to pay a price not envisaged by the White House advisers. We are saying this while following the scenario of pressures, starvation, and economic blockade imposed on Jordan as a result of the blockade being enforced against Iraq. This scenario is preplanned and is no longer a secret. For its part, Jordan announced that it would comply with the UN Security Council resolution on the Iraq sanctions. However, the U.S. Administration, along with its tools in the United Nations and allies in Europe and East Asia, have continued to delay acting on the pledges of support for the Jordanian economy, which has begun to suffocate.

There is only one explanation for the U.S. position. It is that there is a scheme to impose a blockade on Jordan to punish it for its pan-Arab position on the Gulf crisis—a position that has been unmistakably clear since the beginning. According to this position, Jordan committed itself to a peaceful and just settlement of the crisis, a settlement that rules out the imposition of a foreign will or presence on the Arabs and Arab lands.

What seems to have escaped the American mind so far is that pressures on Jordan, starving it, and procrastinating over extending the necessary economic assistance will push this people toward radicalism and despair.

Furthermore, it has escaped the attention of the White House advisers that there are risks involved in further acts of blockade against Jordan and further attempts to bring it to its knees in order to make it relinquish its principled positions, even if such attempts were to starve its people. The first and heaviest price will be paid by the American people and their political and economic interests in the region. Starving Jordan and pushing it to the verge of despair will push the levelheaded and peaceful population of 3 million into 3 million radicals who believe in the scorched earth doctrine and in the precept "If I have to die, I will make my enemies die with me."

What we are saying is not an indication of despair or oneupmanship. It is a calm and scientific diagnosis of a situation that successive U.S. administrations have never understood. It is a reading of Jordanian policy that is met on the U.S. side with nothing but dissatisfaction and misunderstanding. Jordan is a social and political edifice that is capable of demonstrating endurance, patience, and understanding. But when the endurance capacity of this edifice is exhausted and when this edifice becomes a target for starvation to bring it to its knees and push it to the brink of despair and radicalism, U.S. interests not only in the region but also on the international scene will be the prime loser.

U.S., Britain Urged To Moderate Stand on Gulf

JN2310065490 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 23 Oct 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Leave It to Peacemakers"]

[Text] The British prime minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, told Soviet envoy Yevgeny Primakov on Saturday that her government rejected any compromise

over the Gulf crisis that Moscow and Paris are trying to promote as a peaceful way out of the stalemate. U.S. President George Bush had apparently taken a similar position in the wake of Primakov's recent talks with him.

Fortunately only Washington and London are against any form of compromise with Baghdad, suggesting therefore that they prefer a military confrontation there. What is most puzzling in the declared position of Bush and Thatcher is the fact that they talk as if Kuwait and the Gulf were their own property. What right do the U.S. and Britain have to accept or reject a political solution to the Kuwaiti situation, except that they have forces stationed there? We would have thought that the Kuwaiti government was the most concerned party and it is for it and it alone to take or leave a compromise. Secondly, if war is rejected as a means to resolve the Gulf crisis and negotiation is the remaining sane option left for the parties to pursue, then the concerned parties must be prepared to compromise in order to attain the objectives of negotiations. All concerned states need to at least satisfy some of their objectives before any such negotiations can be fruitful. This is the essence of negotiations. Of all capitals, Washington and London should be the first to comprehend the intricacies of the situation. As the dispute between Iraq and Kuwait is a long standing one touching upon disputed territory and other issues, it would seem sensible to discuss such territorial disputes here and now in order to encourage Iraq to sit on the negotiating table instead of forcing it to precipitate a major conflagration in the Gulf region. As Moscow and Paris appear ready and able to entertain a compromise formula in the Gulf, the U.S. and Britain are likewise called upon to manifest more reasonableness in the search for a permanent settlement of the Kuwaiti situation. It must be recalled that the Iraqi military action in Kuwait did not occur in a vacuum. It was the result of historical, geographical and economic problems. The Saudi Arabian defence minister's declaration Sunday that Iraq's legitimate claims against Kuwait can still be negotiated in a brotherly fashion appears to give another glimmer of hope that Riyadh is also enteraining an amicable compromise in the Gulf crisis. What better way is there then than to encourage the Arabs themselves to prepare the ground for a settlement between Iraq and Kuwait and to bring in the international community later to reach a global resolution to the conflict? Washington and London's obstimate efforts to frustrate the dedicated efforts of the Soviet Union, France, and some other Arab countries, like Jordan, could spell disaster for all sides and hopes for lasting peace. They should moderate their stance, give peace a chance, or else leave it to others to try and avoid an imminent catastrophe.

Mansur Says No Lebanese Troops Executed

PM2210145690 Paris LE MONDE in French 20 Oct 90 pp 1, 4

[Francois Chipaux dispatch: "Syrian Army Accused"]

[Excerpt] Beirut—"There were no executions of Lebanese soldiers" during the Saturday 13 October Syrian-Lebanese operation against General Michel 'Awn," we were told Friday 19 October by Lebanese Defense Minister Albert Mansur.

"What happened is this: Following the order to surrender given by General 'Awn, we started to halt the fighting, but it continued in some plces, particularly at Dahr al-Wahsh and Suq al-Gharb. We subsequently heard that General 'Awn had issued a countermand to continue the fighting for three hours, and that is what happened in those two locations.

At Dahr al-Wahsh, the returning Syrian troops heeded the order to cease fire issued by General 'Awn, but the units loyal to him had received the countermand. This caused a two-fold massacre. There was a massacre of Syrians at the beginning," Mansur said. "Caught by surprise, the Syrian troops lost almost 200 men, and when the remains of the unit reached the Lebanese positions there was another massacre. This all happened during the period of the fighting. There were no executions in cold blood after the fighting stopped," he added.

The defense minister also said that "the bodies of some 20 Lebanese troops that are still in the B'abda government hospital (staffed by Franciscans and managed by a military medical officer) are those of soldiers killed in combat." [passage omitted]

Al-Huss Returns; Junblatt Arrives in Damascus

NC2210182890 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss returned to Beirut this evening following a round of talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam. Dr. al-Huss described his talks with the Syrian president as positive, adding that they dealt with the Lebanese Government's policy in the upcoming stage and its steps to consolidate the march of accord and peace. Dr. al-Huss telephoned President al-Hirawi and briefed him on the outcome of the talks.

Meanwhile Minister Walid Junblatt arrived in Damascus this afternoon. He will hold talks with Syrian officials on the developments in the Lebanese situation.

Syrian Vice President, Major General Meet Al-Hirawi

NC2310121290 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 1130 90

[Text] At the beginning of this newscast, we would like to report that Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam and Major General Hikmat al-Shihabi [Syrian Armed Forces chief of staff] arrived in Beirut today on a surprise visit. They are currently meeting with President Ilyas al-Hirawi in the presence of Staff Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an [chief of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon].

Al-Huss Calls French UN Action 'Interference'

NC2210192290 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Commenting on the call French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas addressed to the major powers' UN representatives to discuss the Lebanese situation, Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss made the following statement:

I have contacted the Lebanese ambassadors in the capitals of the major powers and at the United Nations and asked them to apprise the authorities concerned of Lebanon's official stand on the French foreign minister's call to the major powers' UN representatives to discuss the developments in the Lebanese situation and his insinuation that this could lead to presenting the issue to the Security Council.

Prime Minister al-Huss added: We are surprised that a matter that concerns Lebanon should be discussed in Lebanon's absence and without its approval. This constitutes interference in Lebanon's internal affairs. The only issue that Lebanon has before the Security Council is the Israeli occupation [of southern Lebanon] and the implementation of Resolution 425. We are preparing to call for application of the sanctions against the aggressor state that are stipulated in the UN Charter.

Sources Say Al-Huss To Submit Resignation 23 Oct

NC2310091590 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] The Cabinet is expected to meet in the next few hours to discuss future moves by the legitimate government. Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss held a short meeting this morning with President Ilyas al-Hirawi and briefed him on his visit to Damascus.

Some ministerial sources said that there is a possibility that Prime Minister al-Huss has recently submitted his resignation to the president, but other sources said that al-Huss is likely to submit his resignation today.

Committee To Take Over 'Awn's Lebanese Radio

NC2210094290 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 20 Oct 90 p 4

[Text] Edmond Rizq, minister of justice and information, has formed an ad hoc committee to take over the technical equipment, office furniture, and other accessories in the Michel 'Awn radio station that broadcast from the Science College building in al-Fanar. Rizq issued the following decision on this issue:

"Article 1: An ad hoc committee chaired by Michel Samahah and comprising Tanyus Abu-Sallum, Michel

al-Rayyis, and Sami al-Sulh, as members, has been formed in the Lebanese Radio. The committee is assigned to take over the technical equipment, office furniture, and various accessories, which belong to the Information Minsitry and are currently in the Lebanese Radio in the Science College.

Article 2: All competent parties should facilitate the committee's task under the penalty of law."

Syrian Forces Eliminate Roadblocks, Withdraw Tanks

NC2210210490 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] AFP reported that the Syrian forces eliminated a number of roadblocks in al-Hazimiyah, B'abda, Jisr al-Basha, and al-Dikwanah and that the Lebanese Army deployed at the remaining roadblocks. AFP added that the Syrian tanks have disappeared from the streets leading to B'abda Palace and that the Syrians have withdrawn approximately 15 field guns from the Beirut-Damascus highway to al-Biqa'.

AFP noted that the Syrian forces have reassembled in some points in al-Sinawbar forest and have established roadblocks on the approaches to southern al-Matn.

Hostages Reportedly Moved From South Beirut

NC2210082190 Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 19 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] REUTER NEWS AGENCY yesterday cited pro-Syrian sources as saying that about 12 of the Western hostages held in Lebanon had been moved out of Beirut's Southern Suburb. The move was made following the ousting of General Michel 'Awn on Saturday, the sources added.

The sources pointed out that the hostages were transferred "some time early this week, and some of them were taken to al-Biqa' valley." The step is linked to President Ilyas al-Hirawi's plans to extend his government's authority to cover greater Beirut, including the Southern Suburb.

Other pro-Syria fundamentalist sources have told REUTER that the hostage issue is proceeding toward a happy ending and that some hostages are expected to be freed soon.

Jihad Announces More Operations in Jerusalem

NC2210131390 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] A spokesman for the Islamic Jihad al-Aqsa Battalions has announced that his organization will carry out a series of operations in Jerusalem during the next few days in retaliation for what the Palestinians were subjected to at the al-Aqsa Mosque. The spokesman told AFP in Amman that three operations were originally planned to be carried out in Jerusalem to avenge the Jerusalem massacre.

Yesterday, this organization claimed responsibility for killing Israeli settlers, including an officer and a woman soldier in East Jerusalem [as heard].

Hizballah Source Denounces Sham'un's Murder

NC2310073290 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Reacting to the assassination of Dany Sham'un, a responsible Hizballah source made the following statement: The assassination operation to which Engingeer Dany Sham'un, leader of the National Liberal Party, was subjected arouses our condemnation because it runs counter to the process of unifying the country and creating an atmosphere of security among its citizens. Although we disagreed with his policy, and regardless of the services he rendered to the Zionist enemy, we are still not prevented from rejecting and denouncing this abominable operation.

Strike Observed To Denounce Sham'un Murder

NC2210085590 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0745 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Martyr Dany Sham'un, his wife, and his two sons, will be buried after a national and popular procession at his hometown in Dayr al-Qamar tomorrow, Wednesday.

A genral strike has been observed since this morning in denunciation of this ugly crime. Shops and educational institutions closed down in the eastern area, where there was light trafic on the streets.

The National Liberal Party's Political Bureau announced that mourners will be received at the party's headquarters in Sodeco until Wednesday. The party announced that a mass will be held for the victims on Wednesday and that the time and place will be set in due course.

Clashes Reported in Iqlim Al-Tuffah

NC2210090890 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Intermittent clashes involving machine guns and rockets are taking place between the Amal Movement and Hizballah in Iqlim al-Tuffah. Yesterday's fighting left three people wounded.

'Liquidations' Charges Aim To Undermine Sacrifices

JN1910173790 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] The accelerating Lebanese march toward salvation is proceeding steadily and strongly. It is supported by the Lebanese people's determination to achieve stability and reconstruction on the basis of national accord, to reinforce Lebanon's unity and Arabism, and to put an end to the suffering of its people. This suffering continued for over 15 years and harmed all aspects of life in Lebanon. If there must be reconstruction priorities, the affiliation with the new homeland—the unified Arab Lebanon, both land and people—is the most important one, and it opens the door for carrying out all the tasks shouldered by the Lebanese at this important stage in which Lebanon is moving toward stability and reconstruction after the removal of the obstacle of rebellion from its path. This is because what happened constitutes a significant stride for the future and enables the legitimate government's efforts to continue successfully toward the swift achievement of reconciliation and a healthy and proper atmosphere for the sons of Lebanon to bring peace and tranquility to their souls, instead of terror and fear, the nightmare of which has gone never to return.

Ending the phenomenon of 'Awn's rebellion gives the Lebanese legitimate government a broad opportunity to begin the task of achieving national accord and implementing the al-Ta'if agreement in order to spread the state's authority and the rule of the law throughout Lebanese territory and to restore Lebanon's effective Arab and international role. This important and historic stride and all its effects confirm a set of facts, primarily the fact that a unified Lebanon—land, people, and institutions—is stronger than all elements of discord, division, and rebellion through which the enemies of Lebanon imagined they could keep it in the maelstrom of fratricide and disorder indefinitely. The popular satisfaction with and welcome of this move reflected the Lebanese' feelings regarding the termination of the abnormal phenomenon of rebellion, their insistence on salvation, and their rejection of the state of despair that the enemies of Lebanon and the Lebanese have tried to impose on Lebanon.

Undoubtedly, the greatness of the achievement of terminating 'Awn's rebellion cannot be undermined by accusations that might be made here or there about alleged violations or liquidations. The propagation of these accusations is only aimed at undermining the sacrifices made by the personnel of the Syrian Arab Army and the national Lebanese Army in the battle to save east Beirut on 17 October [as heard].

Optimism about the future and salvation has prevailed among the Lebanese, even during the darkest and hardest circumstances, because the unity of the homeland remained stronger and because the Arab affiliation has defeated all attempts to obliterate Lebanon's identity and to separate it from its nation. Hence, the termination of the aberration of rebellion has been an indispensable step in reinforcing the stark truth that the natural course toward the final end of the Lebanese crisis is now being followed on a firm basis and with a strong will. This course is in the interest of all Lebanese, as national unity is the only solid basis for accord and can remove all the factors that led to the eruption and continuation of the crisis for many years during which Lebanon and the Lebanese paid a heavy price to defend Lebanon and Arabism, security, and stability against the dangerous plot against Lebanon and its existence and the Arab nation.

The lessons learned from the Lebanese crisis are important and numerous. The most important of these lessons is that Syria's sincere pan-Arab and brotherly stand on Lebanon and its people, and its unlimited support for the legitimate Lebanese government has achieved an important pan-Arab goal by moving Lebanon toward security and by asserting Lebanon's unity and Arabism. What is important to Syria is the recovery of Lebanon and its people and placing the supreme interests of the Arab nation above all other considerations. Syria's credible policy, sound analysis of events and their developments, and its wise and brave handling of its national and pan-Arab tasks have been seen clearly in what Lebanon, its people, and legitimate authority have achieved through Syria's support and backing for the efforts to end Lebanon's ordeal, establish accord among its sons, and enhance its present and future on the basis of equality and justice among all its sons.

Paper on Israeli Obstruction of Lebanese Accord

JN2310132690 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0545 GMT 23 Oct 90

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the Israeli conspiracies to obstruct the march of accord [in Lebanon], the newspaper TISHRIN says: No sooner had the Lebanese breathed a sigh of relief following the downfall of 'Awn and his terrorist divisionist clique and the removal of obstacles between the two parts of Beirut, than Israel made a series of statements and provocations that are hostile to the national accord government and that cast doubt on the legitimate government's ability to unify the Lebanese people.

TISHRIN adds: The fact is that the Zionist stand is not new or surprising, but falls within the framework of the constant Israeli policy to explode Lebanon from inside and to divide it into warring sectarian entities so that it would be easy to subjugate to its trusteeship, and to besiege Syria and confuse its role in the region. Fraternal Lebanon has been an example of fraternal coexistence among the sects. Israel was annoyed with this and this is why it is lying in wait for it, especially after its leaders have carried out the most hideous repressive measures against Arab citizens, Christians and Muslims, thus proving the nature of their fascist entity. These leaders

believed that fomenting sedition and grudges among the Lebanese sects would help the Zionist entity justify its existence in the Arab region and subjugate Lebanon so that it can be used as a base against Syria and the Arabs.

TISHRIN stresses that in addition to its schemes against the Lebanese accord, Israel is carrying out a huge settlement project in southern Lebanon that is aimed at seizing an important part of Lebanese territory and water resources, using for this purpose what it calls the South Lebanese Army, which is an agent, mercenary army that receives orders from Israel and that is under its control. Israel believes that by achieving the Lebanese national accord, the Lebanese will direct efforts toward southern Lebanon to liberate the occupied part of it, and check the Zionist expansionist plan. This is why Israel insists on placing obstacles before the legitimate Lebanese government that has made considerable progress on the road of accord and unity through the downfall of 'Awn's rebellious clique, which Israel supplied with arms and funds. However, the Zionist role is now totally exposed, and the Lebanese people are now aware of the secrets and objectives of the Israeli policy that are aimed at destroying their homeland and seizing its wealth. Certainly, the Lebanese people will be lying in wait for any sedition fomented by the state of treachery, usurpation, and expansion.

Qaddurah Condemns Israeli, Iraqi Occupation

JN2010100690 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Montevideo—People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah has delivered Syria's speech before the 84th conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union [IPU] during the discussion of the item on world political and economic situation. Qaddurah condemned the policy of aggresssion, occupation, and annexation of territory of others by forces. He recalled the resolutions of the United Nations and the IPU condemning the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories and demanding an Israeli pullout.

Mr. Qaddurah spoke about the immigrant Soviet Jews and their settlement in the occupied Arab territories to replace Arab citizens, who are being subjected to all kinds of inhuman and oppressive methods to drive them out of their lands. He also spoke about the terrorist massacres and actions against the sons of the intifadah—actions that shock world conscience—and about the Israeli soldiers' savage practices, such as breaking bones, burying people alive, demolishing homes, and confiscating property. The latest act was the massacre of the al-Haram al-Sharif on 8 October, he said.

On the Gulf situation, Mr. Qaddurah underscored condemnation of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and called for unconditional Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, return to the pre-2 August situation, and restoration of the legitimate Kuwaiti government. Stressing that this invasion caused the foreign presence in the Gulf, he said that Iraq's unconditional pullout of Kuwait is a must to remove the excuse for this foreign presence.

Meanwhile, Mr. Qaddurah and the delegation accompanying him met with parliamentarians of Arab origin and some members of the Arab community in Uruguay. The talks dealt with the promotion of the activity of the Arab and Arab American parliamentary organization and the strengthening of bonds between the Arab community and the mother homeland.

Al-Asad Meets Lebanese Prime Minister

JN2210165490 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1300 today Lebanese Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss. The meeting was attended by Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam. Talks focused on the situation in the Lebanese arena after ending the rebellion against the legitimate government and future steps to achieve national accord and spread the legitimate government's authority over all Lebanese areas.

Dr. al-Huss thanked Syria for its help to the Lebanese legitimate Government in ending the rebellion and to spread its authority over areas that were under the control of the rebellion. He expressed his gratitude for his excellency's brotherly concern over Lebanon and its people. The president stressed that Syria's decision to help Lebanon will continue in the future.

Senegalese Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

JN2310095890 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Damascus—Senegalese Foreign Minister Oumar Sy Seydina arrived in Damascus at 2215 yesterday.

He was received at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', and the directors of the African and Protocol Departments at the Foreign Ministry.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Oumar Sy Seydina expressed happiness at visiting Syria. He said he is carrying a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from Senegalese President Abdou Diouf. He stressed that President Abdou Diouf respects and appreciates President Hafiz al-Asad's views on events in the region. He said that this visit will provide him with the opportunity of holding meetings and consultations with Foreign Minister Faruq al- Shar' on promoting relations between the two countries.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Condemns 'Extremists,' Pakistan Support

LD2210181390 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Speech by Afghan President Muhammad Najibullah to a meeting of elders in Kabul; date not given—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Dear compatriots, representatives of the noble people of Kabul. It is a matter of pleasure that the leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan, at various times, exchanges views on major national issues with representatives of various strata of society, religious leaders, elders of tribes, nationalities, and credible elders of our country. They are grateful for the beneficial advice of the Afghan people's representatives. It demonstrates a feeling of responsibility on their part concerning the fate of the homeland and its people. I resolutely determine to continue this worthy tradition and consider the advice and opinions of my compatriots—to which I attach great importance—in forming policies and measures of the Republic of Afghanistan.

These days you are aware of the developments and events which have occupied the thoughts of every one of our compatriots. On the one hand the grounds for a political solution to the issue of Afghanistan have been prepared and great hopes have emerged that the war will end and peace will prevail in the country. However, on the other hand, the extremists are taking about new war-mongering measures continue the military path which has not brought about any fruits or gains. You and all our compatriots have witnessed well that during the past 20 months war and the military path have not achieved any fruits. Resolve to continue this situation which tears our nation into pieces, eliminates our children, youths, and elderly, and inflicts material and moral losses on our war-torn country, has no other prospects and gains.

It is because of this that, slowly, thoughts of a political solution with the participation of Afghans, with their active participation, strengthened and was transformed into an acceptable Islamic and Afghan principle. It is the only way to end the sufferings of the Afghan people. Under these conditions when the Afghan people are tolerating great difficulties, waiting for the war to end, and waiting for peace and security, once again the extremists raise the question of war and killings. Behind them are foreigners and those who see their interests in weakening Afghanistan and breaking this nation into parts.

We are completely confident that if interference from abroad is ceased and the Afghans are free to choose their fate, no one will cut their own roots and choose the path of killing. Even a large number of the opposition members and commanders, who were fighting the state until very recently, realized in time after the Soviet forces withdrew that continuing on this path would not bring anything but the elimination and destruction of the Afghan people. They confessed that war and its continuation in the present form—missile attacks on city residents, blockading highways—is a total war against the people and against the nation. Therefore they expressed opposition to it because blocking highways and missile attacks against cities prevents refugees from returning andj destabilizes the situation here and there. It presses at the throat of the people and Almighty God in his Koran considers tormenting people and killing souls as a great sin and condemns this action.

Those who kill a faithful one deliberately, their punishment will be hell forever. [preceding sentence Koranic verse in Arabic] What have we done against the extremists plans and muscle-flexing? We have proposed peace and the protection of our compatriot humanbeings' lives. This is in accord with the tenets of the sacred religion of Islam. As Almighty God says: Be fearful of God and compromise on questions between yourselves. Obey the Almighty and his Prophet if you are the faithful. [preceding two sentences Koranic verse in Arabic] Due to our religious, Afghan, and national responsibility and the pursuit of a categorical order we have consulted each other. We have proposed talks and understanding. We have proposed partial and local cease-fires. We have proposed that as a result of inter-Afghan talks and understanding, all the sides should refrain from militry operations against each other and prepare an atmosphere of confidence for to enpand the cease-fire on a nationwide scale.

In this case, all the negotiators and those who support peace, with the understanding and accord that have been created among them, or is being created, will define an interim period from the time talks begin until elections are convened. They will form an organizational joint commission or committee to coordinate for the elections. This commission would prepare the necessary conditions from the material, technical, and security viewpoint for the elections, see that the cease-fire is observed, form the commissions for drafting the constitution and election law, and distribute UN assistance to those in need, and take measures to allow the refugees return and rehabilitation. Of course this joint commission or committee for coordinating the elections will have the authority to use the mass media, deploy and administer some Defense and Interior ministry units along with armed units of the opposition and other relevant authorities.

In this way an organization responsible during the interim period, will not be merely a formal or unauthorized organization but will have executive authority too. In the interim period the Republic of Afghanistan and the opposition, the armed forces, and the regions under their control will remain as they are. After the constitution and election law are approved jointly with representatives of refugees, forces in support of peace, and as a whole all negotiators, elections will be held and a party or a coalition that wins the election will be asked to form the new government. In this case the opinion and votes

of the Afghan people will be respected and the newly formed government will be supported by everyone.

Dear friends, as you have seen the Republic of Afghanistan has put forward more than 30 proposals in order to achieve peace and is making efforts toward their realization. However, those who seek self-interests in war and the military approach, consistently try by ignoring all these proposals, to continue on the path of military pressure. This action is natural to a certain extent because the extremists know very will that the people not only will not vote for the killers of their children, but will shower them with curses. Along with putting forward these proposals, the state and the people of Afghanistan during the last 20 months, by tolerating all the difficulties that have been inflicted by the extremists, have defended the homeland and its independence. In the future too, God willing, we will be ready to stand against the pursuers of the military path.

This is legitimate defense, because the people cannot be left to face military attacks by the extremists and foreign elements. [applause] Some perhaps will say the defense measures by the state are in order to protect the regime. We, however, say the state has the responsibility to protect the honor, life, and dignity of every compatriot, too. The defensive measures by the Republic of Afghanistan, as a whole, are aimed at preventing the disruption of the relative stability that exists in the country. You witness that, notwithstanding that the armed forces of the Republic of Afghanistan have displayed heroism and steadfastness in defending defending national honors, territorial integrity, and the independence of the country, and, at this moment and tolerating great difficulties, are confidently carrying out their duties in the defense belts, posts, and highways. Still, the extremists, time and again, resort to missile attacks from long distances and Kabul citizens and citizens of other cities are subjected to great suffering from these missile attacks. On Tuesday, Mawlawi Goldbahari [religious leader] said the daily work of a number of people consists of burying their children that have been martyred as a result of missile attack, funerals, and other related sorrowful tasks. Who have created this suffering for our people?

You compatriots, advise me: Should it be allowed that in our country, as in Lebanon, war should flare up in every house and in every street? In that case will you representatives of the people of Kabul not raise the question whether or not the state is capable of defending the lives of the compatriots? As long as pressure and threats exists, defense and resistence should exist, too. However, this this defense and resistance by us emanates from the need to protect the lives of compatriots and the territorial integrity, independence, and freedom of the country. Should it be permitted that Afghanistan, with all its proud history, be brought under Pakistan in an unequal unity with Pakistan under the name of confederation? In that case, are the independence, territorial integrity, not threatened? Should it be allowed that the deeds the extremists have carried out in Konar should be carried out in other parts of the country? At the beginning of the withdrawal of the Soviet forces, we evacuated a number of border provinces, including Konar, and took out our armed forces from there so that the refugees would return there with confidence. The extremists occupied those regions, looted the treasury, and installed governors belonging to their factions in every street and back street. They began squabbling among themselves and brought killing and murder among themselves to an extent that they will kill dozens from each side every day. The Hada farm in Jalalabad was razed to the ground and the treasury was looted. Such is a small example of the power and sway of the extremists. As long as it depends on Kabul, you know the identity of Gulbuddin. It was during the 1950's that the king ruled. Do you remember that acid was poured on people? At that time there was not the question of infidelity. At that time the question of a government of so-called communists was not in question. It was a kingdom, but acid was poured on the people. Should a person, with the conflicts he has acquired over the years, come back; a dark-thinking person? I met with one of the leaders of the moderate opposition. I met with one of the leaders of the moderate opposition. Of course, it was secret. He told me they are in contact with this person and can observe him closely. They think he was born very late. He should have been born 500 years ago. He is a person belonging to the Middle Ages.

If such an element becomes in charge of the destiny of this country, what will happen to the people of Kabul city, to our men, to our children, to our wives, and to the honor of this country? How could we allow ourselves, when Kabul is being threatened, not to gather all the forces together as a united heart and defend the honor, prestige, and dignity of this country, the heart and capital of this liberated country, Afghanistan? I assure you that such a defense has been carried out, and in future too it will be carried out with firmness, full belief, confidence, and relying on Almighty God's will. [applause]

Remember the destiny of the widows of the refugees, when last year the extremists sent their husbands and children to war. They, who still have not come into power, have put at the disposal of the foreigners the honor [wives and daughters] of the refugees in exchange for dollars, rupees, and dinars. To mention the destiny of the refugees' wives and daughters in Naser Bagh camp [in Pakistan], for example, wounds each faithful and Muslim Afghan. If they come into power, will they refrain from selling the soil, independent and territorial integrity of the country, where in every single part of the city and province of Kabul and other parts of Afghanistan the martyred of the path of freedom and independence are buried? The defense of these values and the protection of this certain stability which exists has forced us to stand and resist against the extremists' action with patriotic and Afghani feeling.

You might know that a leader of one of the formations, only because he receives more arms from Pakistan and

considers himself head and shoulders above the others, has accused the Republic of Afghanistan of continuing the war. He said the government of Kabul continues the war, and they have no option but to fight. There is nothing more hypocritical than this. You remember that through the mass media, by propaganda—that is, verbal propaganda and the organization of a series of networks—the whole of Kabul city and Afghanistan were filled with this rumor that very soon an offensive on Kabul, which is being prepared and organized by Pakistani militarists, will be implemented. At the same time they said they will attack a number of other provinces in order to engage the state there. However, the main target is to capture Kabul. For whoever holds Kabul holds the government. If the plan had been prepared by them, we might have reacted otherwise toward them. But, I tell you again that the plan was organized by Pakistan's military intelligence, as the attack on Jalalabad. The extremists are like wind-up dolls forced to stand against their nation, their people, the land, and their homeland. Not only were they not satisfied with the rumors inside the country, but they announced their intention to attack Kabul on practically all the radios of the world. All the various countries of the world have expressed their concern based on these announcements. Now we hear them saying they do not want war. It is the Republic of Afghanistan that wants to fight.

When we became aware of the enemy plan, I must state clearly that we did not remain in a defensive position. We embarked on the offensive. Before the enemy was able to implement its plan, we decided to punish it for its action. In this regard our defense and our offense has been [word indistinct]. They want to threaten two million residences in Kabul. They themselves have declared that. If you remember, when Hazrat-e Sebghatollah Mojaddedi objected, he [Gulbuddin] said the following night on BBC in an interview that if we do not defeat the Kabul regime by means of military revolution—what is military revolution? When he joined forces with Tanay [former defense minister] and bombarded Kabul city—then how can we defeat Najib? [word indistinct] he says this is my path. We have said many times that there is no need for a military revolution, missile attacks, and a general attack on the cities. You should give a chance to the people of Afghanistan. Put [ballot] boxes before them. Whoever they choose will be respected and honored by us. We have criticized ourselves that the measures which were taken several years after the revolution began were made very hastily. We said that not only through tanks, guns, and aircraft, but with the help of the people can sovereignty be established. Why do they trample on the rights of the people of Afghanistan? With a military revolution? With a general attack on Kabul? By firing missiles over cities? When his nose touches ground [he is defeated] and faces a decisive defeat around Kabul. [sentence as heard]

I want to mention to you a very small example of the losses in the four directions of Kabul, especially in the direction of Logar and the west. That is, south and west of Kabul in the direction of Maydanshar, around 540 and 450—that makes 1,000 persons—were put out of action. They have created an army called Esar [Sacrifice], Esar Army, to capture Kabul. I have defeated it and it was scattered. There is nothing left of Esar for the future. Believe me. Some 21 persons of their high-ranking commanders and ringleaders, and 16 foreign advisers were killed. Some 20 ringleaders and commanders and 11 Wahabi Saudis and Pakistanis were injured. Some 21 of their committees and positions were destroyed. Some 30 ammunition and huge foodstuffs were seized. Sixty enemy heavy machineguns, 100 light weapons, and 650 rounds of reactive and Sakr ammunition were destroyed. And a large amount of arms and ammunition, as you have seen on television every night, has been seized. If you think we are proud that the other side has suffered such a loss, no, we are not, we are sad. The other side are Afghans too. However, a number of selfish, ambitious persons have sold out to the foreigners, and the foreigners use them as cannon fodder to either destroy your homeland or to be killed. When his nose touches ground and then like an old fox wears praying beads and becomes a devout, virtuous, kind, and nice person and says that the winter season is arriving and we have mercy on Kabul's people because where should they go in this time of the year during the snow-filled mountains. [sentence as heard]

If he [Gulbuddin] is so nice and kind to the people of Kabul, then why were several missiles fired on different parts of the city the day after his announcement? You remember them. He cares that the people should not go into the mountains and face snow, but, while here [in Kabul] he destroys their homes and kills their children. Dozens are killed and wounded, but he does pay any attention. It is very simple for him, when he says the people should leave their homes and go toward the mountains and deserts. He says they have made preparations to free the people of Kabul. What is it that they should go to the mountains and deserts? They should leave their homes and become homeless. This is the preparation.

I should tell you that if they did this, just because they have fewer brains, or act against the people and homeland, that is something different. But do you know why they wanted them to do so? On 24 October elections will be held in Pakistan. In Pakistan the militarists and the reactionary right-wing want to win ground from their opposition. In order to gain ground, it was decided that before 24 October—which begins this Wednesday—two Wednesdays ago or a month ago, the attacks should be organized on Kabul and other provinces just to tell the people of Pakistan that Afghanistan will be captured today or tomorrow; to say Kabul is captured and you should therefore give your votes in favor of those who are against Afghanistan. I wish it was for their Islamic ideology. But it was to implement the instructions of foreigners, for the sake of more votes, that they destroy their home. They kill their mother and trample over their children. They then say they are the children of this

homeland and will have a say in the future and future destiny of this country. Do you think the people of Afghanistan will raise their hands for them and will follow them?

I was talking to a few elders before. We said that at least Shah Shoja was supported by the British—a superpower, about which it was said the sun would never set on its colonized territory. Now, we wait and see that Pakistan brings another Shah Shoja for us, the Panjabis. If the people of Afghanistan rejected Shah Shoja, they will never accept this Shah Shoja or any other Shah Shoja. There will be no room for them in this territory. [applause] The second issue: The United Nations Organization has decided that within three months, the last three months, 250,000 refugees should return to Afghanistan. All these efforts, propaganda, measures, and planning by Pakistan will only tell the resugess that they should wait, Kabul will be captured in a matter of three or four months; you should not return to Kabul and Afghanistan. To prevent those refugees who have such a hatred and wrath toward them beyond imagination, they resort to these actions in order to prevent the return of the refugees and to create obstacles in the path of the United Nations Organizations plan.

If a person becomes so alien that, in exchange for the blood of the homeland's children, motherland, and soil, he wants to implement a plan organized by Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence, I am sure the bricks, sticks, and stones of this homeland will become united against them as an unbreakable trench. [applause]

You have seen us at the time of the withdrawal of the limited Soviet contingents. We gathered together only our party comrades in the march organized on 5 February and armed them and took them, under military training, in case we came under pressure. They should be able to defend us. But, when I watch television these days, I can see that there are fewer party members, but there are elders, respectable people, religious people belonging to various tribes and nationalities, young boys, and nonparty members. You have seen them. They pass with arms in hand and ask who has the heart and is brave enough to threaten the liberated center of this country, the capital of this country, Kabul.

Who has such a lion heart to carry this task? Yesterday, the remainder of the Esar Army was asking for help from Pakistan and was saying that who has planned this issue [passage indistinct] I have said before that our resistance is lawful, for the honor, prestige, and national heritage is involved. Believe me, they have resorted to various attacks on different provinces with the participation of Pakistani generals, officers, and detachments. I asked the various provinces whether they need any help from the capital or if they are self-sufficient. Of course, in some places where it is necessary we will deliver help. All the garrisons and provinces reported to me and told me that they are alive when Kabul is defended, and if Kabul is not defended they are not alive. [applause] As you can see, your provinces are in very difficult conditions. They are in dugouts, in security posts, and carry out their duties day and night, but, when the question of the defense of Kabul's honor and prestige is discussed, they all in one voice convey to you the message that you should protect the trenches of the cradle of this homeland and country. Then, they are alive; if you need help, we can send you help from the provinces, and they have done so. You have seen on the television that militias and non-militias, organized and non-organized people come for help immediately. Who has the heart to defeat Kabul. They [extremists] again asked for more time. That is, when the winter is over they will attack in the spring and summer. If you [extremists] had such a brain, then why didn't you think about it first. They might say the same thing again in spring, and maybe in the next winter they will come to their senses.

We might see the situation and events develop at such a speed and the [word indistinct] then they might not find the chance to implement such plans in the interest of foreigners. Therefore, I assure you once again and you should believe me. We have earned this trust from you and we have been raised in your folds; we have learned his honor, zeal, and prestige from you; you have murmured in our ears and said repeatedly: Love your country as you love your faith. What about those people who did not love their country, did not earn a thing in this world, became the agents of the foreigners, and lost this world and the future. There cannot be anything more disgraceful than this for someone. The reason is obvious. As I said before, we propose peace. We say the Muslims are each others' brothers and make peace among them. If two Muslim tribes kill each other, you should ensure peace among them. This means we take a step toward the implementation of God's instructions. But he [Gulbuddin] says he wants war and wants killing and slaughter. God says jihad for the path of God. He says I want war and killing for the path of God.

God says that I have not said so. You [Gulbuddin] follow the path of Satan. Go and rely on whoever you wish. You rely on Pakistan, on the West, and on whichever countries you desire. [God says] we will defend these young people, this Najib in Afghanistan. [applause]

He [Gulbuddin] has lost his faith and trust in God. He says that the Soviet Union and the United States have talked and agreed to a compromise and want to conspire against our Islamic revolution. What are you going to do? They [the extremists] say they will take power by their own force; they are independent; and they receive weapons from no one—no foreigner gives them weapons. He [Gulbuddin] announced on the BBC in his own voice that no foreigner gives them weapons and aid. Where do these weapons come from then, my friends. Do they come from the heavens? The hatred of God rains upon them from the heavens. He has been rejected by God. What we [word indistinct] is proof. And I want to give you the proof of Pakistan's interference.

1. I have said several times that Pakistan interferes in Afghanistan. Some people deny this, say it is a propaganda. Finally, Sebghatullah Mujaddedi said yes, it is Pakistan's hands and the ISI [Pakistani intelligence service] [that are involved].

2. We have captured a Pakistani officer who said that 20 Pakistani officers and their detachtments are located around Qalat. We have captured another two who we hope to display for you on television.

3. The Pakistanis invited their commanders to meetings in Chetral and Islamabad. Special helicopters were sent by Chief of the General Staff Aslam Beg. News of a meeting was announced the following day with pride that Ishaq Khan, president of Pakistan; Yaqub Khan, foreign minister; Aslam Beg; and (Jatoi), the prime minister, all sat together and discussed Afghanistan. The chief of the general staff and the president met with these commanders. On the one hand they said that they had signed The Geneva Accords and on the other hand, in response to the speech by our foreign minister at the United Nations, they said that there is no one in Pakistan, no training, no camps, they do not give weapons to anyone. Have you ever seen such politicians in the entire world? Now Gulbuddin, you put yourself under the will and instructions of such politicians. [sentence indistinct] The whole world talks about it. All of this is proof of interference.

I should tell you in a word that after 20 months they were defeated in Jalalabad, and they know that they were unsuccessful, and they then trampled on the little democracy that existed there [Pakistan]. Now they want to attack again by military means. You should believe that we in fact are not facing the extremists' opposition, we are confronting Pakistan. Our war is with Pakistan. As if the British and others did not learn their lessons in Afghanistan now Pakistan wants to forget the lessons of history. Again they face defeat. When they boast to their international patrons that they will capture Kabul within so many days and everything will be solved, what will they do when this in fact does not happen.

If I were one of these Pakistani militarists, when one attack, two attacks, three attacks, and more are defeated by the brave Afghans, I would then either resign from the military and politics or I would put a gun to my head and kill myself. What type of Afghanistan?—a wounded Afghanistan! It has been engaged in war for 12 years and even with its body wounded teaches a lesson to any aggressor and any interfering force.

Why? Because we rely on God. We go forward with his support and backing. [applause]

We have said that there is nothing more hypocritical than this. The state has officially presented more than 30 peace proposals. But the extremists resort to military pressure, missile attacks, blockading cities, organizing coup d'etats, and causing fear and intimidation. However, you have witnessed that the leaders of other formations, such as Sebghatullah Mujaddedi, have called these actions the plans of foreigners, of Pakistani mercenaries and the ISI, and called them interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. He condemned this foreign aggression against his country. We can see that slowly the idea is taking shape among the opposition that it is better to side with the State of Afghanistan rather than become a mercenary for aliens. They believe that they should not become the instrument of destruction, of killing and slaughter, and of further destruction of the country and should not implement the aims of foreigners and Pakistani militarists and their intelligence services. The position of the Republic of Afghanistan is clear in this regard. We announce that we welcome each patriotic and peaceful step that is taken by any force or personality.

I have complete confidence that the Afghans will finally find a common language and will jointly untie the knot and resolve the problems of their common home. This was done by our fathers and forefathers. Whenever there was a problem they tried to solve it with their own hands. Unforturnately, the extremists currently prefer to go to foreigners who have bad intentions and ask their help in solving the problems of Afghanistan. Throughout history the Afghans have forgotten their own discord when there was a foreign threat and united for the sake of the national interest of the country. Now too, with the help of Alimighty God, we will find an Afghani solution to an Afghani problem. No foreigner, no matter who he is, will be able to take the place of the Afghans. Afghans have many possibilities to acheive peace.

Holy Koran, which we all believe in, says: [Arabic verse followed by Dari translation] Try to hold on to God's robe and do not become disunited and scattered. The aim of holding on to God's robe is to respect the Islamic faith and the Koran. As you know we have proposed to meet the opposition in holy Mecca. We have told them that we should sit together and we accept God and his book as the guide to our path. We should jointly decide on peace in the light of the instructions of God and the Koran which conform to the national interest. They immediately said that Najib is a kafer [infidel] and they would not talk to him. I want to tell Gulbuddin that he should have said that it does not matter whether Najib goes to Mecca and prays. If he does not pray then you can tell the whole world that he is an infidel and if he does pray then you have made him a Muslim. [applause]

It has been said that the army of Muhammad, may peace be upon him and his family, has traveled around and invited people to accept Islam. If anyone resisted, his lionhearted men tried in battle and jihad to convert the infidel to Islam. Here they want to convert a Muslim to an infidel by force. [laughter from floor] We say that there is no God but Almighty God. He says no, God is a kafer.

There are 2 million people in Kabul. All of them are Muslims. When a child is born the first thing they do is say azan [words said loudly on top of a mosque before every prayer] in the childs ear. Azan is called out five times everyday from the minarets of Kabul and the provincial mosques. The word is said. Prayers are said.

Five principles of Islam are implemented. They [extremists] say: No, all [Kabul residents] are infidels. All of them are infidels. And they hit them with rockets. Are they infidels to be hit by rockets? [previous two sentences in Pashto] [Extremists] supposed to convert an infidel to Islam or convert Muslims to infidelity? I think they act correctly. We are true Muslims. But he wants to convert us to Wahabism. So our Islam may not not be credible because we do not follow their school of thought.

They have created a new word for themselves. They have [word indistinct] the word. They have halved the prayer. Do you know about the aims of the Wahabis? I have explained them to you many times. But our way is the Koran which is our law; the path of God is our behavior; the shari'a [Islamic law] whose follower we are. [applause] If someone invites us to a new school of thought or a new word we have followed this path for 1400 years. Our Afghan dignity will not allow us now to give up this 1400-year path. [applause] Moreover in the course of our history Jergas [assemblies] and the Loya Jerga [Grand National Assembly] have decided on the most important issues of the fate of the country, and these decisions have been enforced as unbreachable laws. The path of God, the Koran, the shari'at; the path of Jerga, the path of Loya Jerga. Anyway they [the opposition] advance...[changes thought] They used force. It is enough. Come on and abandon killing.

He [Gulbuddin] said it the other day. He said the other day, under pressure from the BBC who asked him whether he believed in a political solution, that he believed in it, that the killing should be stopped by Najib. The next day he declared that he was ready for elections so we could resolve problems through understanding. The next day I immediately arranged a news conference and directed the representative of the republic to issue a government statement that Gulbuddin had declared such a thing the previous day. Now we are ready [provided] he announces that the killing and attacks on Kabul and other cities and provinces has ceased—because he himself is the initiator of the attacks, he is the aggressor—and the next day we will announce it. [sentence as heard] Immediately we will ask for a representative or a delegation. They [UN officials] will come and supervise elections that we will hold. When we announced this, because the liar has no memory, they said they had not given up their plan but for some reason it had been delayed for a while. The operations they launched in the surrounding area are small ones. They are routine—killing is routine and normal for us. It occurs every day. The principle killing, the enormous murders and bloodbath, will be seen later by you. What should I tell you about him? He is notorious among leaders as a savage leader. A savage leader. But the people of Afghanistan are so angry with him that, if captured by them, he will forget his savagery.

We now see good examples of political solutions to problems in Nicaragua and Cambodia. In these countries all opponents have agreed to a political solution and differing sides have accepted one anothers reality. Extremists persistently demand the removal of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan and never propose a plan for a political solution. You realize that, if the government steps down, a power vacuum would be created. Not only would the war not end, it would intensify. No one can predict the loss of property and life this would cause. In such a case not only will the war not cease in Afghanistan, it will continue with greater intensity and no one will shrug his shoulder of responsibility.

Therefore, the key to solving the Afghan problem is in the hands of the Afghans themselves, in the hands of Afghans and in the unity of opinions and acts of all political forces, organizations, and credible Afghan personalities; not in the stepping down or exclusion of this or that force.

Esteemed friends, I believe that the Afghan people, as in the past, will develop a plan concerning the consolidation of national unity, the safeguarding of independence and territorial integrity, the cessation of war, and the maintenance of peace in the country, and will demonstrate their wisdom and competence as the descendants of their forefathers. I pray to Almighty God to assist all of us in stopping the war and maintaining peace. Once again I express thanks and appreciation for the unreserved support of the inhabitants of Kabul province that they have displayed in connection with the declaration of the Republic of Afghanistan. Having such men of will, your country, your sovereignty, your territorial integrity, and your independence and freedom will never face defeat. Success comes from God. [applause]

Watan, Peasants Alliance Sign Protocol 18 Oct

LD2010082390 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0434 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Kabul, Oct. 19, BAKHTAR—A protocol of cooperation and sharing of experiences and efforts between the Watan "Homeland" Party "WP" and Peasant National Alliance "PNA" of Afghanistan was concluded on Oct. 18, 1990 at the Watan party headquarters.

The protocol from the PNA side was signed by Abdul Hakim Tawana, chairman of the leading council of that alliance and by "WP" by Farid Ahmad Muzdak, executive board member and deputy-chairman of the WP. The protocol paves the ground for extensive cooperation and understanding between the two parties in implementation of national reconciliation policy, cessation of war and bloodletting and reconstruction of the country.

Peace Organization, Soviet Party Sign Protocol

LD2210083590 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0512 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Kabul, Oct 21, BAKHTAR—Dr Basir Ranjbar, chairman of the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organisation of Afghanistan (PSFOA) met today at the headquarters of the organisation with the high ranking delegation of the Soviet Georgian Socialist republic led by

N.G. Gadzi, chairman of the All Georgia Movement Party for Peace and Freedom and chairman of the Union of Friends of Afghanistan in Georgia.

A protocol of cooperation between the two parties was signed during the meeting. It was signed on behalf of the Afghan side by Basir Ranjbar and on Georgian side by N.G. Gadzi. According to another report, S.Y. Wasiq head of radio television and the Afghan film met with the delegation in his office today. Discussion was carried during the meeting on cooperation between the Afghan and Georgian televisions.

Armed Forces Capture Positions in Zabol Province

LD2110135890 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1330 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] The units and companies of the Armed Forces stationed in Zabol Province having inflicted crushing blows on the extremists, captured new positions north and northeast of Qalat city.

The BAKHTAR information agency military section reports that as a result of these attacks 15 extremists including two Saudi Wahabis were crushed, 21 were injured and a reactive system [rocket projectiles], three vehicles carrying arms and ammunition belonging to them were destroyed. The units and companies have captured new posts in the northwest and northeast direction and are successfully carrying out their national and patriotic duties with high combat morale and patriotism.

Seize Large Ammunition Haul

LD2210175390 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] The units and companies of Kabul garrison continued military mopping up operations toward the south, and today captured the heights of Waghjan Pass. The BIA military section reports that as a result of these activities, a number of extremists were crushed and two ringleaders were captured. Also the armed forces seized 2,000 boxes of ammunition for DShK, 8BM-1 units, 80 missiles along with 300 warheads, 10 Sakr-30 surface to surface missiles, 50 howitzer shells, and 70 rockets. Four caves and five dugouts belonging to the extremists have been eliminated. The Kabul garrison units continue their successful operations.

Kabul Garrison Command Issues Announcement

LD2210173890 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Announcement by Kabul Garrison General Command for the information of the people of Lowgar Province:

Esteemed inhabitants of Lowgar Province, know that presently the units and companies of the Republic of Afghanistan Armed Forces, in order to neutralize planned attacks by armed groups of the extremist Gulbuddin group, has carried out a series of operations around Kabul, including Tangi-e Waghjan. As a result of these operations, armed groups organized in the so-called Easar [self-sacrificing] units belonging to Gulbuddin have been eliminated and are fleeing.

According to information, these fugitive groups are engaged in propaganda in some villages of Dehnaw and Kolangar, saying that the state units are about to launch operations in their villages. in order to create disorder among the inhabitants of these areas. The General Command of Kabul Garrison assures all the people in Kolangar and Dehnaw that these operations are aimed at the fleeing groups of Gulbuddin and are not aimed at the inhabitants of any area. They should engage in their daily affairs with confidence, and the state is ready to render all possible assistance to these people.

Bangladesh

Ershad Blames Opposition for Loss of Life

BK2210133390 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] President Ershad has announced that a separate education board will be established in Chittagong very soon. He was addressing a meeting of local elites, political leaders, and workers and people from all walks of life in the port city on Monday. The president said his government is doing everything possible for the development of Chittagong city.

Referring to the program of some opposition (?groups), he charged them for the loss of some valuable lives and expressed his heartfelt sympathy. President Ershad reiterated that the coming election will be held as per constitutional provision. He said his government will uphold the constitutional [words indistinct]. Earlier, President Ershad attended the annual conference of commanders of East Bengal Regiment at Chittagong cantonment.

Cabinet Works Against Opposition Campaign

BK2310085690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0820 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 23 (AFP)—Most of the 37 members of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad's Cabinet had rushed to their respective constituencies as Bangladesh's mainstream opposition groups began a day of action Tuesday. The opposition groups, as part of a renewed campaign which started October 10, were staging demonstrations and sit-ins to form a human barricade around district and sub-district offices of administrative chiefs.

The national radio reported Tuesday that ministers were in their constituencies either holding or planning to hold rallies, which observers here believed was a bid to offset the opposition programs. There were no immediate reports of violence.

The current campaign, demanding Mr. Ershad's resignation and the holding of free and fair elections under a

caretaker neutral government, has so far claimed 10 lives, according to unofficial estimates. The authorities have admitted six deaths. The opposition says fair polls are not possible while the former general, who seized power in a 1982 military coup, remains in power.

Student activists said they were certain the current campaign would topple the president, who has ruled this South Asian nation with an iron fist since a bloodless coup in 1982, if major political groups, especially Sheikh Hasina Wajed's Awami League and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party of Begum Khaleda Zia, maintained and strengthened the unity "we have achieved through blood on the streets."

Sheikh Hasina said in a statement published here Tuesday that Mr. Ershad, "frightened by the rising movement" against his government, was resorting to "lies and hoaxes." Rejecting Mr. Ershad's warning two days ago that a "foreign conspiracy to jeopardise our progress" and its agents were behind the recent violence, the opposition leader said that the government was making misleading statements.

Predicting the campaign would reach its logical goal "at any cost", she said, "I will prove who has clung to power illegally and who has the right to rule the country by defeating the people in power in elections."

India

Conflict Continues Over Disputed Shrine Issue

Gandhi Calls for Negotiations

BK2010133090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1135 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] The Congress-I president, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, has said that the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid [disputed shrine] problem should be solved by the government through mutual negotiations. Talking to newsmen in Cochin today, Mr. Gandhi said all the concerned parties should obey the verdict of the court on the Mandir-Masjid [Hindu temple-mosque] issue.

Commenting on the three-point formula evolved to resolve the issue, Mr. Gandhi said that the formula has already been rejected by the concerned parties. Mr. Gandhi categorically ruled out the possibility of his party supporting the V.P. Singh government if the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] withdraws its support. The Congress-I would not support a government headed by the BJP also, Mr. Gandhi added. Mr. Gandhi is in Cochin to undertake a 10- kilometer-long Sadvavna Yatra [good-will journey] in Kottayam District.

BJP Says Journey To Continue

BK2210164690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] The Babri Masjid Coordination Committee has welcomed the setting up of a six-member committee of chief ministers to evolve a formula for resolving the Babri Masjid-Ram Janmabhoomi [disputed shrine] issue. The convener of the committee, Syed Shahabuddin, has said that the committee welcomes all endeavors to resolve the problem through negotiations.

The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] leader, Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee, has said that there is no need for the party president, Mr. L.K. Advani, to discuss afresh the Ayodhya issue with the newly-formed committee of the six chief ministers. Ruling out any question of the withdrawal of the Rath Yatra [chariot journey], Mr. Vajpayee told PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA] in New Delhi the formation of the new committee would not help solve the crisis. He said if the chief ministers want to extend their helping hand, there is no objection.

Singh Urges Public Restraint

BK2210171090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, has categorically stated that he is ready to pay any price to uphold the Constitution and abide by the law in dealing with the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid issue. In a broadcast to the nation a short while ago, he said the government may come and the government may go, but there can be no compromise on the basic principles enshrined in our Constitution. The prime minister's broadcast came at the end of the day of hectic political activities revolving round the Ayodhya issue. The day was filled with several meetings of various political parties, including the prime minister's meeting with chief ministers.

In his broadcast, the prime minister said secularism is the cornerstone of our nation. If it is compromised in any manner, this could lead to its fragmentation. [Three-second break in reception] ...demand for a theocratic state. This, he said, can never be acceptable. The rule of law must prevail. And if there is any dispute among the followers of different religions, the only logical course is to abide by the law.

Making an impassioned appeal to the countrymen, he said utmost restraint should be exercised by each of us and we should not be swayed by emotions.

Referring to the government's efforts to find an amicable solution, the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, said that it had several meetings with all religious and political leaders to resolve the crisis. Unfortunately, no acceptable settlement could be arrived at. Under the circumstances, the only alternative left is that we should await the court verdict. It is regrettable that some people are not prepared to wait for the court verdict and they say that they would not accept it as it is a matter of faith. He

said others also can advance the same argument. This creates a very explosive situation.

The prime minister said it is not a question of saving the government. It is a question of saving the nation. He said if there was a choice between saving the government and saving the nation, he would choose to save the nation.

Earlier, addressing a meeting of intellectuals in New Delhi, Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh said the government is going to rescind the ordinance issued last Friday [19 October] acquiring the disputed property in Ayodhya. He said many chief ministers at today's conference have made an appeal to the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] president, Mr. L.K. Advani, to give up his Rath Yatra [cahriot journey] because of the tension it may cause. Mr. V.P. Singh also informed the meeting that the former prime minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, has made a personal appeal to Mr. Advani to call off his Rath Yatra. In a statement in Bombay, Mr. Desai said any further attempt to proceed with the Rath Yatra would endanger the unity and integrity of the nation and would create a serious law and order problem in the country.

Sikh Leader Arrested

BK2210171490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] The Akali Dal-Mann president, Mr. Simranjit Singh Mann, and two other party leaders were rounded up by the police today in Amritsar for violating the ban on carrying of arms in the 100-meter area around the Golden Temple complex. Mr. Mann, who arrived in Amritsar to preside over a meeting at the party office, was escorted out by the police and security forces where he tried to force entry along with his gunmen.

Advani Criticizes Government

BK2310013890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0035 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] president, Mr. L.K. Advani, has criticized the central government for its decision to review the three-point formula and the ordinance to acquire the disputed land at Ayodhya. Addressing a meeting in Patna last night on the third day [as heard] of his Rath Yatra [chariot journey], he said the government has surrendered to the Babri Masjid [disputed mosque in Ayodhya] Action Committee by taking this decision.

Mr. Advani reiterated his party's decision to withdraw its support to the National Front government if his Rath Yatra is stopped. He said the Sri Ram Temple will be built at the very birthplace of Ram in Ayodhya and it cannot be stopped. The BJP chief urged the Muslims to respect the sentiments of Hindus and extend their help in rebuilding the Ram Mandir [temple] at Ayodhya.

Uttar Pradesh Bans Weapons

BK2310040490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] The Uttar Pradesh government has banned the carrying of arms and weapons in the state with immediate effect. The government has also ordered the closure of arms shops and fireworks shops in 48 districts and banned the sale of their goods till the 1st of next month. Prohibitory orders under Section 144 of the CRPC [criminal procedure code, banning assembly of five or more persons at one place] have already been enforced in these districts. Large number of preventive arrests have been made in several districts in apprehension of the breach of peace.

Meanwhile, army and paramilitary forces staged flag marches in sensitive areas of many towns yesterday apprehending the breach of peace in view of the proposed entry of the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] Rath Yatra [chariot journey] into the neighboring Deoria District on Thursday [25 October].

Janata Dal Criticizes Government

BK2310042290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] The Janata Dal leader, Mr. Chandrashekhar, is critical of the government's handling of the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid [disputed shrine] issue. He questioned the wisdom of promulgating an ordinance and then agreeing to rescind it soon after. He was speaking to newsmen in New Delhi yesterday. Commenting on the prime minister's appeal for six more months to solve the issue, Mr. Chandrashekhar asked: What was the government doing when it got four months' time from Vishwa Hindu Parishad [World Hindu Council] earlier? He said at that time the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] was not directly involved in the issue.

BJP President Advani Arrested

BK2310044690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Agency reports say that the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] president, Mr. L.K. Advani, has been arrested at Samastipur in Bihar. Agency [as heard], quoting Home Ministry sources in New Delhi, said that Mr. Advani was picked up this morning.

BJP Withdraws Government Support

BK2310060890 Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi 0530 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] The Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] has decided to withdraw its support for the National Front government following Lal Krishna Advani's arrest in Samastipur this morning. In an interview to the All India Radio correspondent a short while ago, Atal Behari Vajpayee, a senior BJP leader, said that his party is informing the president of its decision. Vajpayee said Advani's arrest is

a provocative action by the National Front government. According to reports, some more BJP leaders have been arrested. The BJP president was arrested this morning when he was carrying forward his chariot journey toward Ayodhya. The state home commissioner told our Patna correspondent that along with Advani, three BJP members of parliament and one member of the legislative assembly [MLA], were also arrested. The arrested parliamentarians are: Promod Mahajan, Kailashpati Mishra, and Yadunath Pandey, while the arrested MLA is Deenanath Pandey. Advani has been sent to Dumka and others to Muzaffarpur.

Official sources said in Patna that religious rallies and demonstrations have been banned in the state.

Expressing his reaction to the arrest, Bihar Chief Minister Lalu Prasad Yadav said Advani has been arrested in view of the situation created throughout the country by the chariot journey of the BJP. He told the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA in Patna that the chariot journey has flared up communal violence at several places and the government cannot remain a silent spectator to all of this.

Informs President

BK2310064690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0632 GMT GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] A message just received says that the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] has withdrawn its support from the National Front Government. A seven-member delegation led by Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee met the president, Mr. R. Venkataraman, shortly before noon today and handed over a letter withdrawing the party's support to the government.

Singh Meets President

BK2310074490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, has conveyed to the president that he will prove the majority of his government on the floor of parliament. He met the president at Rashtrapati Bhavan [President's House] this afternoon shortly after the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] delegation called on the president withdrawing its support to the National Front Government. He was with the president for about 20 minutes.

Later, talking to waiting newsmen, Mr. V.P. Singh said that the factual position is that the BJP has withdrawn its support to the government. However, the majority has to be proved on the floor of the house. In reply to a question, the prime minister said he has not tendered his resignation.

Reaction to Advani Arrest

BK2310091990 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Reacting to Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] President Mr. Advani's arrest, the Bihar chief minister, Mr. Lalu Prasad Yadav, has said that the government had to arrest him in view of an atmosphere of fear created all over the country by the BJP's rath yatra [chariot journey]. He told PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA] in Patna that the rath yatra had already led to communal violence at many places and the government could not remain a silent spectator.

The Uttar Pradesh chief minister, Mr. Mulyam Singh Yadav, said that by arresting Mr. Advani, the Bihar chief minister has significantly contributed in upholding the constitutional values and secularism in the country. The Tamil Nadu chief minister welcomed the stand of the prime minister for his determination to safeguard the national character of the country. In a statement in Madras soon after the arrest of Mr. Advani, Mr. Karunanidhi criticized the rath yatra in a secular country.

The BJP general secretary, Mr Khushabahu Thakre, has condemned the arrest of Mr. Advani and described it as an act of impropriety. The Madhya Pradesh chief minister, Mr. Sunderlal Patwa, has said that the arrest of Mr. Advani is unfortunate and undemocratic. The Orissa assembly witnessed unruly scenes when BJP members denounced the arrest of Mr. Advani. Slogans and counter-slogans interrupted proceedings of the house soon after the question-hour. The two BJP members staged a walkout. An emergency meeting of the BJP was held in New Delhi this morning at which the leaders took stock of the situation arising out of Mr. Advani's arrest and stoppage of the rath yatra. The party general secretary, Mr. K.L. Sharma, said it will observe a bundh [strike] in the capital tomorrow against the arrest.

The Vishwa Hindu parishad [World Hindu Council] has also condemned the arrest of Mr. Advani. The senior Janata Dal leader, Mr. Chandrashekhar, has described the withdrawal of support by the BJP to the government as unfortunate. A delegation of the four left parties met the prime minister and reaffirmed their support to the National Front government.

President To Examine BJP Action

BK2310080790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] A seven-member BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] delegation led by Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee met the president and handed over a letter withdrawing his party's support to the government.

Talking to newsmen, Mr. Vajpayee said that in view of the multiple failure of the government and the forcible prevention of the construction of the Ram [Hindu God] temple in Ayodhya and also because of the arrest of the BJP chief, Mr. Advani, his party has withdrawn its support. He said the withdrawal of support is also in pursuance of the resolution of the party adopted on the 17th of this month and a copy of which has been handed over to the president.

Asked about the president's reaction, Mr. Vajpayee said Mr. Venkataraman assured the delegation that he will set in motion the legal process and get it examined. In reply to another question, whether his party will support the National Front government if it is headed by any other leader, Mr. Vajpayee said that BJP will face the situation when it arises.

Ordinance on Shrine Revoked

BK2310093790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] The ordinance issued last Friday [19 October] by the president vesting all disputed areas in Ayodhya with the central government has been revoked. The cabinet committee on political affairs and the union cabinet met this morning and considered the withdrawal of the ordinance. The prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, apprised the president of the circumstances under which the ordinance had to be withdrawn when he called on Mr. Venkataraman at Rashtrapati Bhavan [President House].

Another ordinance revoking the earlier one promulgated today says that the vesting of disputed areas in Ayodhya with the central government shall be deemed never to have been transferred and all legal cases pending before any court or tribunal shall continue. The appointment of the receiver of the property will also continue as before.

Iran

30,000 Iraqi POW's Said Detained as 'Pawns'

AU1910140390 Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU in German 19 Oct 90 p 1

[Pierre Simonitsch report: "Iran Keeps 30,000 Iraqi Prisoners-of-War as Pawns"]

[Text] Geneva, 18 October—About 30,000 Iraqi prisoners-of-war in the hands of the Iranians have become pawns for political or economic advantages. After Iraq released practically all Iranian soldiers, who were captured in the Gulf war, the government in Tehran is now refusing to respond in kind. An Iranian-Iraqi committee, which is supposed to organize the exchange of the prisoners together with the International Committee of the Red Cross Committee (ICRC), is unable to agree on the conditions.

In order to rally support against the U.S. troops and the other forces deployed in the Gulf region, on 17 August Iraqi President Saddam Husayn offered his former war enemy Iran the return of all occupied territories and the release of the prisoners. Tehran agreed to this offer. Violating the Third Geneva Convention of 1949, which provides for the return of all prisoners-of-war after the end of active fighting, the exchange between Iran and Iraq took place man for man.

Within a month about 39,000 Iraqi prisoners-of-war and the same number of Iranians returned to their homes. Thus, Iraq had released all prisoners, with the exception of 600 Iranian soldiers who had been sentenced to prison terms for alleged crimes. However, there were still 30,000 Iraqis in the Iranian camps, some of whom have been imprisoned there since the outbreak of the Gulf war 10 years ago.

Obviously, Iran is detaining above all officers who might be useful to Iraq in strengthening its armed forces for a new test of strength. However, observers do not rule out Tehran demanding economic or political concessions from Baghdad in return for these hostages. Such a concession could be, among others, withdrawing support from the armed Iranian opposition movement "Mojahedin-e Khalq," which is operating from Iraqi territory and is lead by Mas'ud Rajavi.

The ICRC, which is responsible for the technical execution of the exchange of prisoners, is barred from the negotiations. Last Sunday [14 October] in Tehran the Iraqi and Iranian negotiators agreed on the resumption of diplomatic relations without, however, clearing up the question of the prisoners-of-war.

According to the ICRC, the release of the first 78,000 Iranians and Iraqis took place without any problems. A reinforced delegation of the neutral humanitarian organization was able to ask every released prisoner without witnesses at the control posts whether he was returning to his homeland voluntarily. Part of the Iraqis, in particular Shiites, had been "reeducated" by Iranian clergy during their imprisonment. Demonstrations against Saddam Husayn were organized with them. ICRC delegates were hindered by such prisoners-of-war to visit the camps. As a result, the care for the prisoners by the Red Cross, which is demanded by the Geneva Convention, came to a standstill. After their release, the Iraqi collaborators of the Iranian regime now have to fear punishment or the revenge of their former fellow-prisoners. The ICRC keeps silent about the number of Iraqis who did not want to return home.

The orderly return of the prisoners is also made more difficult by the fact that neither the Iranian nor the Iraqi authorities handed the ICRC complete lists of camp inmates, as would have been their duty. In addition, the ICRC found out that about 6,000 already registered Iraqi prisoners-of-war had disappeared without a trace. The Iranian authorities did not provide a sufficient explanation for this.

Furthermore, the fate of an estimated 1,200 Egyptians, who were captured by the Iranians as volunteers in the Iraqi Army, is unknown. The Tehran government is of the opinion that these are not prisoners-of-war protected by international law but mercenaries.

Editorials, Commentary View Gulf Situation, U.S.

UN System Not 'Viable'

LD2210215390 Tehran IRNA in English 1815 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 22 IRNA—A Persian daily Monday commenting of Persian Gulf events said that contingent political developments in the region may eventually pave the way for the full sovereignty of regional states over their own affairs.

In its editorial 'RESALAT' said: "The defects of the present international order have now become conspicuously evident: As Israel's expansionism takes shape according to the U.S. schemes and those of other dominant world powers the United Nations is seemingly incapable of a proper reaction."

In a cautious reaction to the killings by the Zionist police of the Palestinian Muslims in Al-Aqsa Mosque on October 8, the U.N. Security Council condemend the action and called for the dispatch to the occupied Palestine of a query team which move the illegal state of Isarel described only as 'interference' in its internal affairs.

The daily said if the United Nations were to act according to its own principles it would have to take practical measures against the Zionist regime as it had recently taken against the Iraqi Government.

According to the U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 the Israeli regime must vacate all territories it occupied in the 1967 war. However, the still-frequently asked question is to what limits the geographical boundaries of that illegal state extend in the judgement of the countries which have established ties relations with it.

RESALAT continued that as a matter of fact, however, it was the same international system which gave birth to the Zionist entity on Palestinian land in the 1940's. "Now if the Israelies have been able to legitimize an occupation by prescription why should not other countries, such as Iraq, cherish similar wishful hopes?"

It said "Naturally this international system in which only five countries of the world have veto power cannot reasonably be a viable system."

America thinks it is now high time it tried to get the control of the world affairs in its hands. It believes if it should manage to defeat Iraq in a military operation it will then be able to create a new security system to be led by the Wasington. But as far as it relates, added the daily "the international situation is far more shaky for the U.S. to see the coming true of its sweet dreams..."

It went on to state that the important question is, however, related to the schemes of Israel. "Probably in the wake of the U.S. attack against Iraq Israel will push the Palestinians towards Jordan. If the Zionists should do this then it will be proof of the incapacity of the international security system and will prepare grounds for changes in the political geography of the Middle East."

It is not too easy to predict what will happen, analysed RESALAT, but against this background we cannot ignore the role of Palestinian Mujahidin in their struggle against Israel and against domination in the region by other powers. In that case the advent of the full sovereignty of the countries of the region over their own affairs will seem nearer at hand."

Western Presence Exacerbates Crisis

NC2210114290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0540 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Political commentary from the "Voice of the Front" feature]

[Excerpts] News and reports about developments in the Persian Gulf region continue to be varied and complicated, which is eloquent testimony to the sensitive situation in this strategic region of the world. For example, Soviet President Gorbachev's special emissary announced that Iraq is willing to enter into talks on the Persian Gulf crisis, yet the Kuwaiti envoy in France reports on the establishment of a joint U.S.-French military command against Iraq. [passage omitted]

The conditions in the Persian Gulf region are so acute and complex that the sides involved should only act decisively and with principles. In addition, the UN Secretary general should formulate some parallel measures for resolving the Kuwait problem. He should also formulate political plans for Iraq's exit from Kuwait, and especially for the withdrawal of Western military forces from this sensitive region.

The problem of the region is not confined merely to the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq. The other major difficulty lies in the extensive and multinational Western forces, especially of the United States, that are increasing in the region on a daily basis. If the Western military presence is boosted daily, the conditions will certainly become more conducive to a crisis in the area. [passage omitted]

In circumstances of expanding militarism, one cannot be optimistic about a political or amicable settlement of the crisis. Therefore, the UN secretary general, who is seeking to establish peace in the world on behalf of all the countries, should give priority to a plan not only for the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, but also for the departure of all Western military forces, including French, British, and American forces. The only way to resolve the regional crisis is with the simultaneous withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait and the Western multinational forces, followed by political negotiations for an amicable settlement.

If we want security and durable peace to return to the region, with all the regional countries' participation, these initial steps should be taken to attain this major objective.

This is also the basis for the general stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the subject. Recently this was reiterated in the joint Iranian-Ghanaian communique condemning Iraq's military aggression against Kuwait, which emphasized the speedy withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, as well as the departure of foreign military forces from the Persian Gulf region, as the way to resolve the regional crisis.

Therefore, from Iran's point of view, it is only with this simultaneous withdrawal that favorable conditions will be created for an amicable settlement of the Persian Gulf crisis and the establishment of security, with the assistance of the countries of the region.

U.S. Gulf Presence 'Open Insult'

LD2310111590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0740 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] The explosive situation in the region is becoming more complex by the minute. This is at a time when the lineup of United States and Iraqi forces facing each other has caused severe anxiety for international public opinion. In such circumstances, the question is more seriously raised as to why the parties involved in the crisis do not respect clear international principles which could assist the estbalishment of peace and calm.

On the one hand, the question is: Why did Iraq resort to weapons for the resolution of bilateral differences after failing to come to an understanding with Kuwait? Why did it occupy Kuwait? And why, then, did it fail to cooperate with all the international efforts undertaken through the UN Security Council?

On that basis, the invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi forces is completely unacceptable and, consequently, in order to make up for that past action, withdrawal from Kuwait must take place as soon as possible and, of course, without any conditions.

On the other hand, the United States Government's dispatch of forces to the region, which has intensified the crisis, too, must undoubtedly be rejected, because the Americans have sent forces to the region not for the sake of re-establishing order and security, but for the maintenance and extension of their illegitimate interests. We must also bear in mind that the dispatch of forces by the U.S. is seen as an open insult to the countries of the region.

In truth, by what right does the U.S. give itself permission to send forces to the region at a time when military doctrines and iron fists are being relegated to the dustbin of history? Are White House officials the guardians of the people of this region? Are the countries of the region not capable of resolving their own affairs? By what right, again, does the U.S. consider itself licensed to add to the chaos and insecurity in the region with unilateral and willful actions?

These are all questions which are increasingly raised by public opinion in the region and the world. It is, therefore, clear that the U.S. wants to force the idea on the world that the countries of this region do not have the ability and the maturity to deal with and resolve their own problems. That is an open insult which cannot be excused under any circumstances.

On the basis of that fact, the Islamic Republic of Iran, just as it declared at the start of the crisis, considers the only solution to the region's crisis to be cooperation between, and united action by, the countries of the region. Of course, in carrying out that important task, the cooperation and assistance of the international community can be envisaged and taken into account. The final word is that the spirit of bullying and pushing people around must be rejected and driven away from the region and the crisis must be alleviated and resolved with reliance on peace and understanding; that is the most rapid and efficacious method.

U.S. 'Security Plan' Viewed

NC0910141290 Tehran ABRAR in Persian 25 Sep 90 pp 1,8

[Unatttributed commentary: "Transferring NATO to the Persian Gulf or America's Security Plan"]

[Excerpts] On the eve of the third month of Kuwait's occupation by Iraq, the UN Security Council intends to study an aerial embargo against the latter. With a glance at all the resolutions against Iraq that have been approved until now, one can take it for granted that this resolution too will be approved. But what will happen after this? This question leaps to mind after looking at the situation. In other words, first we had world condemnation. Then we had troop deployment in that region. Then came the naval blockade. And now we have the aerial blockade. What will be next?

There is no doubt that Saddam Husayn does not intend to leave the scene without having gained any concessions. But how will those who have assumed the role of guardian for others write the final chapter to this story?

America's military troop alignment in the region today is so extensive that no one can doubt that Iraq's military machine will be disintegrated by America. Washington's officials are continuously denying that their presence in the region will be permanent and they say that when the crisis is over they will go home. But the fact that the Americans were able to muster up this much force in less than a month shows the extent of their sensitivity. Thus, one cannot hope that the topic of withdrawal from the region will remain anything more than words. [passage omitted]

Time is working to the benefit of America and, in some way or another, to the benefit of Iraq. It is not working to the benefit of the remaining heads of the Gulf Cooperation Council. There is no doubt that by wasting time American intends to blow up Iraq's mischief as much as possible so that it can gain international endorsement for

its diktat in the region and so that NATO can be transferred from Europe to the Middle East.

But what has been ignored in the midst of all these are the conditions under which NATO was created and the conditions under which NATO was imposed on Europe after World War II. If it were not for Hitler, American propaganda would have given Stalin the title that Hitler had. In the same way, if it is not the Iraqi regime then what will the excuse be?

In view of this, one can anticipate the Persian Gulf being turned into a scene of more regional conflicts unless regional security is ensured through an extensive pact by the countries of this region: in other words, the American security system.

Crisis Serves Israel, U.S.

NC1210122290 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 1 Oct 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Contriving Crises"]

[Text] Israel, its continued existence and its stability figure in every policy or measure the U.S. and its European allies follow in the Middle East.

Exporting various crises to the region at different periods is done with the express goal of dividing the Muslim world in order to divert the focus of public attention in those countries away from the Zionist state to other matters. After all, a united Arab or Muslim nation would be likely to act against Israel and its interests.

By its subtle stance vis-a-vis the Persian Gulf crisis stemming from the invasion of Kuwait, the U.S. has been able to fracture the Arab nation and make enemies out of longtime allies.

Israel, in the meantime, will stand to benefit and draw stability from the destruction of the scattered Arab defenses which together can pose a considerable threat to it.

By raising and brandishing the idea of war nowadays in the Persian Gulf, the U.S. is also applying a tactic to force attention to anti-Zionist forces branded as "radicals", in order to have them discard their avowed goals.

Efforts to help preserve U.S. allies in the region with different economic and political means or attempts to replace so-called radical regimes with Western-supported ones are done with the aim of trying to force those movements which might harbor the idea of the destruction of Israel to replace it with one of peaceful coexistence with it. On the other hand, the U.S. has tried to maintain some kind of a presence in the Persian Gulf region. Its marginal presence was increased with the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran War. It later enhanced that (presence) with the idea of maintaining freedom of navigation there and defending Kuwaiti oil tankers. After the termination of the (Iraq-Iran) war it, however, had to reduce its military presence which it did.

But the U.S. has always looked for an opportunity to strengthen its grip over the waterway made possible through some sort of a permanent stay. The invasion of Kuwait brought about just that opportunity.

In general, wars have historically served to bring about the circumstances for continued U.S. presence in spots it deems necessary which in the case of the Persian Gulf serves as a point of reliance for Israel.

The creation of Western—supported regimes and imposing physical presence as pursued by the U.S. and its allies will act as a medium for undermining Islamic movements in all of the region's countries such as Algeria, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Lebanon,...

The well-orchestrated U.S. animosity toward the Iraqi regime is because of the fact that it spearheaded an opposition against Israel. After Iraq it might be the turn of Libya.

In addition to wanting to contribute to Israel's stability in the region through the export of crises here, the U.S. also follows the twin goals of contributing to an international order or status quo which it helped found and also reinforcing its control over the energy life-line of the world.

Anti-Muslim 'Conspiracy' Viewed

NC1210124390 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 2 Oct 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Soviet, U.S. and Israeli Conspiracy Against Muslims"]

[Text] The Soviet Union and the Zionist regime agreed on Sunday to set up consular relations, their foreign ministers announced after talks at the United Nations. The two countries already have consular missions in each other's capitals. But Sunday's agreement would put this on a formal basis turning the missions into consulates-general, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told reporters, according to wire reports.

For about two years now, a Zionist regime's consular delegation has been in Moscow facilitating the mass exodus of Russian Jews to the occupied Palestine. The Soviets too have sent a consular delegation to the Holy Qods (Jerusalem) claiming that its purpose is to look after Soviet interests in occupied Palestine. This delegation is now attempting to open a business representative office of the Soviets in Palestine.

The Soviet Union severed diplomatic relations with the Zionist regime following the six-day 1967 Arab-Israeli war and aggression of the Zionist regime on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. But relations between the two countries have resumed since the coming to power of President Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow.

One of the important conspiracies at present against the Muslim world is permission for mass migration of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine. This conspiracy, taking place with the coordination among the U.S., Israel and the

Soviet Union, will enable one million Soviet Jews to emigrate to occupied Palestine by the end of 1992.

By allowing Soviet Jews to settle in the occupied lands the Zionist regime in Tel Aviv intends to annex forever the Palestinian land to the illegal state of Israel.

This mass migration of Jews to occupied Palestine threatens the security of many of the countries in the Middle East.

On the official level the Soviets have said that they will resume full diplomatic relations with Tel Aviv only when it agrees to the holding of an international peace conference in the Middle East.

But for the ordinary, oppressed Palestinians who are being massacred and murdered daily in the occupied lands at the hands of the Zionist forces, it is clear as daylight that Tel Aviv and Moscow have established firm ties from long time back.

It is ironic for the Soviet Union, which claims to be the defender of the oppressed of the world, to allow the emigration of Jews to the land of the oppressed Palestinian people, who have no rights in their own country.

It seems moreover that the Soviet Union and the Zionist regime are using the opportunity created by the Persian Gulf crisis and public attention towards it, to quicken the re-establishment of their ties and rapidly allow the illegal emigration of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine.

Political analysts also believe that the U.S. also using the Persian Gulf crisis to establish its stronghold over the Persian Gulf crisis to establish its stronghold over the Persian Gulf oil resources and threaten the holy lands of Mecca and Medina. The Soviets are upgrading their relations with the Zionist regime which is occupying the first Kiblah of the Muslims, i.e. the Holy Quds.

Thus from the standpoint of the Muslim Ummah, both the Soviet Union and the United States are condemnable because of the treachery they are openly committing against it.

Paper Suggests France Sell Arms To Improve Ties

NC1310112590 Paris AFP in English 1101 GMT 13 Oct 90

[Text] Tehran, Oct 13 (AFP)—A Tehran paper close to the government here said Saturday that France could prove its goodwill towards Iran by selling the Islamic republic weapons. The report in the English-language daily, the TEHRAN TIMES, said the French attitude in the past had been one of "hostility and enmity against Iran", and Paris would now "have to show some real goodwill towards Iran" for bilateral ties to flourish.

"Some political analysts in Tehran believe that Paris can show its goodwill to Iran at this stage by showing a more flexible policy," the paper said. "One way could be to provide technological and military aid to the Islamic Republic." It said that France was selling weapons to other Gulf countries except Iran, and could just as easily supply the republic with advanced military hardware.

France was one of the main arms' suppliers for Iraq. The commentary came five days after an interview with President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in the French daily LE MONDE, in which he said friendly ties with Paris could only be renewed after a financial dispute between Iran and France is resolved.

The dispute centers on the reimbursement of the outstanding debt and interest on a billion dollar loan made by Iran to France before the 1979 Iranian revolution, and on Iranian compensation to French companies for broken contracts.

On Thursday, French Industry Minister Roger Fauroux met here with Iranian Vice President Hasan Habibi to discuss the Gulf crisis and economic cooperation. The official IRNA news agency said the two men also discussed Iranian gas exports to France and French investment in industrial projects in Iran.

A leading French commercial bank, Societe Generale, announced here on September 9 it had agreed to set up financing worth 1.8 billion dollars for large petrochemical projects in Iran. The Tehran Times meanwhile said that although international public opinion and the West had acknowledged Iraq's aggressive nature—following Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait—and regretted lending Baghdad their support, "the French leadership refuses to admit its mistakes."

It added: "One of the most important of these reasons could be France's huge investment in the Iraqi Ba'th party." The daily said Iraq currently owed France billions of dollars and suggested that the high financial stakes may be dictating France's what it called France's moderate tone towards Iraq on the Gulf crisis.

"Iran is no longer sensitive to Franco-Iraqi friendship since the cease-fire, but this does not mean that the Islamic republic will be indifferent towards French arms shipments which intend to alter the military balance by sending weapons to the sensitive Persian Gulf region," it said. The cease-fire reference was the United Nations-orchestrated truce between Iran and Iraq in August 1988 which ended the eight-year-old Gulf war.

Deputy Minister Outlines Reconstruction Plan

LD2210165190 Tehran IRNA in English 1511 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] London, Oct. 22, IRNA—Iran is determined to use its natural resources, wealth and power for development and reconstruction plans, including establishing three free economic zones, the largest being Qeshm Island in the Persian Gulf, 'Ali Shams Ardekani, director of the Qeshm Free Area said Monday at a conference in London.

The conference was on investment in the Islamic Republic, and was organised by the Confederation of British Industry

(CBI) and the Middle East Association (MEA). Ardekani, who is also Iran's deputy minister for economics and international affairs, insisted that Qeshm "will be a demonstration to the world at large of just what our country can do when it puts its best foot forward".

The audience was told that in order to increase the role of Iran in international trade, as well as expediting industrial growth and technology transfer, the creation of Qeshm Free Area was undertaken. "The law concerning the five year plan passed by our parliament in February 1990 calls for the creation of three free economic zones. The largest (is) Qeshm (which is) greater in area than almost 15 independent states" he stated.

He added that the Islamic Government "have shown our courage and determination in war against the aggressor (and) now we intend to show these same qualities in winning the peace for the benefit of both our own Iranian people and for our partners in this great international business venture". Other speakers at the conference, included David Gore-Booth, assistant under-secretary at the British Foreign Office, Sir Anthony Parsons, former ambassador to Iran, Mahdi al-Tajir, chairman of the International Development Corporation and John Banham of the CBI.

Ardakani pointed out that eight years of imposed war have resulted in "great destruction in many areas of my country and in the stagnation of Iran's industry and economy". He added that in the first five year development plan, which went into effect March this year, "reconstruction of the country has been given top priority".

The sensitivity of recent events, with the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, he said "has proved once again the importance of Iran in the persian Gulf region... With its vast resources and large population, (Iran) can be the only balancing force in the region in the interest of all the countries and peoples of the area, from Central Asia and Caucasia to the Arabian Peninsula". Iran, he emphasised, "is rich in oil and gas, with proven and probable reserves at about 10 percent of the world's oil and 20 percent of the world's gas reserves".

In addition, said Ardakani, there are 54 proven oil reserves on- shore, some of which have not yet been utilized. The Islamic Republic of Iran, he noted, "is second only to the Soviet Union in natural gas resources". Iran therefore intends to further develop its oil and natural gas resources and increase its production capability "to optimize utilization of associated liquid gases" he said.

The production of associated gas will therefore be increased from 56.12 million cubic meters per day in 1989, to 66.54 million cubic meters in 1993, he added. The Iranian official went on to say that the production of non-associated natural gas from independent gas sources will increase from 28.15 million cubic meters per day in 1989 to 171.42 million cubic meters per day in 1993.

It is also intended, he stressed, that gas will be used for the new industries in Iran, and the use of gas in industrial units will increase "from 9 million cubic meters per day to 29 cubic meters per day, by the end of the five year plan". The five year plan also calls for the equivalent of a 350 billion dollar expenditure, he said, of which about 130 billion dollars would be in foreign currency.

"From this amount the plan calls for financing of 28 billion dollars for specific projects that either have great export potential or can reduce imports". Ardekani stressed that financing is only allowed in specific amounts, specified "for industry, dams, power plants, petrochemicals and oil sectors" and that it is only permitted "for less than 10 percent of the plan's budget".

He pointed out that the Middle East, particularly the Persian Gulf region, "is the most important area in terms of the volume of its resources, as far as the international oil industry is concerned". To this he added that Iran's geographic location "provides many opportunities for investments". He noted that there has been "much talk" about the benefits of new trade opportunities with countries in the Black Sea region of the Soviet Union. But he felt that "without reconstruction in the Caspian Basin, reconstruction in the Black Sea Basin will not lead to stability".

There are almost 90 million people in the Caspian region of the Soviet states, he said, adding that they can only be accessed readily through Iran, which has "unique historical and cultural ties with the peoples of this region and can provide a great opportunity for trade and development ventures from the whole area". However, in order to develop and reconstruct and improve investment in the area, "there is a need for stability and tranquility in the region", he insisted. He spoke of the current Persian Gulf crisis and its threat to such stability.

"The world is now faced with Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, which has added a grave new dimension to the conflicts in this region", Ardekani said. He criticised the Western powers, pointed out that "instead of calling for democracy and censoring dictatorships, industrial powers have rushed to the area to protect their interests". He called it an "irony" that these "national interests have always meant alliance with dictators, shahs, shayks, Saddams, Fahds and the like". The Iranian official felt that "the greatest service the United Nations could render for the Middle East, would be to call for the introduction of participatory democratic governments throughout the region".

RESALAT Reports on 23 Sep Majles Session

PM2210132290 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 24 Sep 90 p 5

[Text] Report from yesterday's open session of the Majles: Legal and parliamentary section-The Majles held an open session yesterday mornig chaired by Hojat ol-Eslam Hashemiyan.

According to RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent during this session, following speeches given by deputies from Varamin and Shahr-e Kord as pre-agenda speakers and comments made by the deputy speaker, the Majles went into session. Below are the text of the pre-agenda speeches and the bills passed by the Majles:

Mohammad Qomi, deputy from Varamin: The country's schools must prepare the groundwork for the expansion of revolutionary values.

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open session of the Majles was Mr Mohammad Qomi, the deputy from the constituency of Varamin. At the beginning of his speech he conveyed his greetings to teachers and students on the occasion of the start of the academic year. He said: We start the new academic year at a time when our role models of patience and resistance, our dear POW's are among us and are busy alongside our children in the education arena. We hope that these hopes of the Islamic revolution, by paying attention to the guidance of the dear imam and Ayatollah Khamane'i as well as correct programming on behalf of the officials, will manage to take some useful steps toward self-sufficiency in this country.

Mr. Qomi continued by remembering the students and teachers of Gilan and Zanjan provinces who lost their lives as a result of the heart-breaking earthquake. He asked God to forgive them and bless them, adding: Since education is one of the cornerstones of the country, schools must act in such a way so as to help expand Islamic and revolutionary values and promote in every way the pure Islam of the Prophet—greetings unto him and his family—while rejecting American Islam in order to guarantee the cultural independence of the country.

It is the duty of all those involved in education, the government, the ministry of education, school headmasters, teachers and students to cleanse their minds in accordance with the ruling of the Koran since this is more important than learning and for each to pay their dues to the blood of the martyrs and to the Islamic society.

He continued: Today some 15 million of the revolution's children will enter schools and dedicated teachers will be at the service of the students. I want to ask the government why is it that the Ministry of Economy and Finance is reluctant to give housing loans to teachers below 4 percent despite the fact that the plan to provide housing for teachers has been approved by the Majles and the Council of Guardians? We are grateful that the basic pay and bonus pay for professors of universities have been corrected but it is expected that the government and the Majles will also take steps to correct the basic pay and bonus pay for teachers as well.

He commented on the fact that holy defense week coincided with the opening of schools and asked Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani to stress to education officials to utilize the children of Hezbollah and warriors in key education posts instead of those who stayed far away and were indifferent during the bloody years of the imposed war. This way they would prevent the mobilization forces and the soldiers of Islam and the revolution from becoming disapponted. On the other hand we are starting holy defense week and the opening of schools at a time when the source of evil in the West, the criminal United States, has brought its and its servants' demonic troops to the Persian Gulf region.

The land where God's message was received and the hope of the Prophets and the home of Prophet of God—greetings unto him and his family—are now being trampled under the boots of the mercenaries. Today more than at any time before, the troops have the intention of destroying the holy sites. We must be aware and it is important to note that in many cases they will make things seem weak in color or try to make them disappear. During the time of the imam—peace be unto him—in some areas where the imam took a specific line, where he spoke freely and clearly, there were those who would start to compliment the imam's character. They would bring about something that was as clear as daylight, that needed no explanation and alongside this they would bring about the imam's position on certain subjects here or abroad together with analysis or else they would be silent and forget the whole thing. Today when the respected leader, follows the imam's line, clearly standing face to face against the United States in a steadfast way, saying that they have to be thrown out of the region, saying that whoever gets killed in that process will be a martyr, there are some who take a position of silence and only make comments out of habit. They are silent toward this very important and fate-determining factor which is connected with the dignity of the Islamic ummah. I hereby ask all officials of the Islamic Republic regime to follow the Majles' lead. They should bravely, clearly and openly support the position taken by the respected leader with regard to U.S. presence in the region, the same way 170 Majles deputies did. Support of this nature makes the United States crazy and makes the Muslims more bold and groups of Hezbollah will form more quickly to throw the United States out of the Persian Gulf and, more important than that, from the place where God's message was delivered. Today more than ever before the message of our late imam has been realized that al-Sa'ud does is not competent to manage the two holy mosques. He again said that if they had any Islamic or Arab dignity at all they would never have agreed to sell themselves in this type of filthy political deal. Are these types of actions not shameful for Islam? Is it not a crime to watch them? Is there no one among the Muslims who will rise and not bear all this indignity? Is it really true that we have to sit while the rulers of Islamic countries ignore the feelings of 1 billion of their people? We must all get out of the quagmire of silence into which the politicians of the United States and the Soviet Union have thrown the seeds of death and slavery. We must go toward the lake from which the holy Zamzam spring flows. We must wash in our own tears the curtain covering the Ka'ba' and the holy mosque of

God which has been made filthy by the heretic and infidel Americans and their children.

the people's deputy from Varamin concluded his speech by mentioning the elections for the Council of Experts: Apart from the qualifications and past records in science, revolutionary and resistance activity, today's candidates must show through their stance vis-a-vis world arrogance, the confusion of the United States and American Islam, that they have the qualities to become elected to the Council of Experts. This is why their anti-American and anti-satanic beliefs must be absolutely proven in words and actions. This is why one cannot accept those who have remained silent in the face of the United States and its crimes, or in one way or another have shown green and amber lights, and send them to the Experts. The imam said that all our problems are because of the United States. The Americans should know that our people are awake.

The dedicated comrades of the imam who consider the animosity against the United States one of the most important things, will not sell themselves to the Americans. They will not surrender to the liberals nor to those who pretend to be holy, those who drained the water out of the jug from which the imam's child drank water. The imam spoke of philosophy. Our people have taken the truth from the spirit of the imam and have recognized American Islam and the pure Islam of the Prophet—greetings unto him and his family—and they will act accordingly.

Mohammad Ra'isi, deputy from Shahr-e Kord: The issues of education are beyond one person or one organization. They need an all-out holy crusade.

The second and last pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open session of the Majles was Mr. Ra'isi from the constituency of Shahr-e Kord. He sent his greetings to the spirit of the departed imam of ummah—may God expedite his passage to paradise—and the crusader martyrs who obeyed his orders. He sent his greetings on the occasion of the new academic year to all those who serve Islam and culture.

The speaker then talked about the importance of education and referred to the jewel-like statements of the imam saying: I have chosen several pieces from the imam's previous messages that were issued at the beginning of the school year. I shall decorate my speech with them. In general each society's culture designates that society's identity and being. When there is cultural deviation, even if a society is strong in terms of its economy, politics, industry and military might, it is empty and hollow. It would be naive to think that one can achieve independence in other fields if one is dependent as far as culture is concerned. Culture is the main aim of the assault staged by colonialists. In order to achieve independent thought and in order to come out of a dependent life, we must understand our own culture and national identity. You teachers and professors, students in universities and colleges, writers, intellectuals and respected scientists must try and wash the brains clean of this cultural dependence. With this great service that is so worthy, you will save your country and your people. My dear children, it is you who must try even harder to water the seeds of your nation's independence. Your tomorrow is a difficult one. If you are equipped with science, piety and strong Islamic revolutionary sense, your victory will be certain. If, God forbid, you fall short in this area, the responsibility is yours. Falling short in education is treason against Islam, the Islamic Republic and the cultural independence of a nation; the people and everyone must avoid this. How beautiful he has said these things. May God and his prophets surround him. In the shadow of such teachings, and the importance which Islam as a religion gives to education, in a short period of time, Islamic scientists draw the world's attention to themselves and they become famous throughout the world. In all sciences, both theoretical and practical, we have had great scientists such as Sheykh Baha'i, Mola Sadra, Sohre-vardi, Bu 'Ali, Biruni, Farabi and hundreds of others who have made Islam and Muslims proud. They have made us responsible to follow their path.

He continued: But when colonialists give control of the Muslims' affairs to incompetent and puppet-like rulers, we see how so many Muslim youths lose themselves and surrender to Western culture. Knowledge of Arabic—even some of the names of these dear people are strange and unknown to many Muslim youth. This is where the imam cries that we must know and recognize those great things and those people in our national culture and be proud of them.

Then when we pay so much attention to education it is because we consider it to be one of the most important things and the pillar of society's existence. It is the only element of dependence and one that can cut us off from the cycle of dependence.

The speaker commented on the nature of teachers despite their low pay and said: Undue sympathy and improper patronization by some ignorant people with regard to their treatment of teachers has made things so bad that these people are in many cases ashamed to introduce themselves as teachers.

We must pay more attention to education than has so far been given. The issues of education are out of the hands of one person or one organization. They need an all-out holy crusade in which people from all walks of life can participate in with holy intentions. They should consider it one of their duties and responsibilities. Today, those people who have turned this machinery into a tool for their own personal, group or political advantage, those who make others feel cool and disappointed and those who will not allow others to serve in the field, should rest assured that this people's curse will fall upon them and that the blood of our martyrs will not leave them alone.

The deputy from Shahr-e Kord commented on the real place for education and said: Education must find its real

place in our society. If we want our culture to come out of its present status, the education system must attract with the most calculated and rigorous selection process the most decent and best people with talent. To be a member of the educational system must be point of pride, something that not everyone will be able to achieve. It should be the height of someone's ambition to be able to get into the education system, to get the honor. This is not something that is impossible, it is quite easy to achieve and the solution is not based on money. Our people are not money-minded. The respected officials of the country must show humility toward teachers and must continuously remind society of the spiritual worth of teachers. In practise they must show that they will rush to their aid when problems arise and they must give them special privileges. This separation and making one group superior is not creating classes in society, rather it is directly linked with the happiness and dignity of each individual person and the country's independence. The people will welcome this and will accept it with all their hearts. The respected education officials must adopt the tone of the imam and discuss their problems in the open and must seek help. The subject of some comments, speeches and interviews makes one believe that some officials have not properly recognized the people yet and they have yet to recognize the greatness and glory of this people. The minister of education in an interview on 6 August 1990 told a reporter: Article 30 of the Constitution must not become an excuse. Please examine the word "excuse" because it has negative connotations. It is the people's superior political awareness that makes them defend something they love. One should congratulate these people. Your should talk about your problems in the open and in a frank manner, the way the imam used to talk to the people. Then you will see the results. The country belongs to the people. The revolution belongs to the people. Because the people staged the revolution and because they gave their loved ones to the revolution, they will support their revolution.

The deputy from Shahr-e Kord commented in another part of his speech on management in education and said: There must be great care taken with regard to choosing managers for education so that suitable managers are chosen in a neutral way. Why is it that we go after people who have been tested in smaller environments and have failed there? For proper work one must send out experienced men.

The speaker concluded his speech by asking officials to hand over homes that are already built in Shahr-e Kord to teachers there and to do this as soon as possible because the teachers in that town cannot afford the high prices.

Comments by the Majles deputy speaker:

Mr. Hashemiyan remarked on the holy defense week and said: The holy defense week is a reminder for us of an unwanted war and all the hardship imposed on this dear people by the world-engulfers of the East and the West. All those sacrificers were taken from us by Saddam and all that material damage was imposed on the Iranian people. This is all a reminder for us of the sacrifices of the Iranian people who gave their children and by making all kinds of sacrifices on the fronts and behind the fronts, carried out their duty to Islam and the revolution. These are people who tolerated all the back-breaking problems and did not complain once in the face of the aggressors.

He stressed: These dear people continue to remain on the scenes. These people continue to keep a careful watch on the disgraceful presence of the United States and its allies in the region and are keeping themselves ready more than ever before. These people continue to be faithful to the revolution, Islam and to the Koran and are a friend to all the oppressed and innocent people of the world.

Mr. Hashemiyan greeted all students and teachers on the occasion of the start of the academic year saying: The teachers are completely aware of their heavy mission. They know that the character of this country's children is made in schools. Teachers know well that for a nation that needs manpower to reconstruct, the base is in the school. Teachers are aware of their mission that purifying the mind has priority over teaching. As they teach the students, they have to cleanse their souls as well because knowledge and science without a cleansing of the mind does more harm than good.

The deputy speaker of the Majles also stressed that the speeches, writings and the last will and testament of the imam must be taught to students in schools.

He thanked the government for providing the facilities for students to learn and thanked Majles deputies saying: The Majles has always taken steps to make life easier for teachers and it will take even bigger steps in the future.

The deputy speaker of the Majles concluded his speech by conveying his greetings to the Jewish compatriots hoping that the Jews, as before, would fight against Zionism, which governs in Israel in their name, and for the revolution.

Reply by the deputy from Paveh to the pre-agenda speech given by the deputy from Aligudarz:

Mr. Babakhas, the deputy for the people of Paveh gave a reply lasting 3 minutes to the remarks made by Mr Ahmadi, deputy from Aligudarz with regard to the evacuation of villages in the border region of Nowsud.

Defending his remarks he said: The Muslim people who live in my constituency, both town-dwellers and village-dwellers have proven their dedication, reliability and sacrifice for the revolution and the Islamic Republic regime both during the imposed war and also during the struggle against the mercenary groups. This has been proven by history and witnessed by the honorable officials who served in that region. It has been proven with the numbers of martyrs, wounded, disabled and combatants.

He added: In every village and town, more or less, there are unpleasant people. If one were to order the evacuation of each town and village because of a minority that is mercenary and dependent on foreign elements, many

places would have to be evacuated. Then why is such a large military and security force needed?

Mr. Babakhas reminded: Our objection is to the manner of evacuations the treatment given by the regional officials which was not expected, and turning people into refugees without planning for shelter or food for them. Following this action, at the suggestion of the governor general, who was it seems unhappy about the previous evacuations, the matter was conveyed to the respected deputy commander in chief of the armed forces. He said, with an upset tone, that this should not have been done. During a question from the then minister of interior Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohtashami in the interior commission, he said that there was no coordination with them.

The people's deputy from Paveh concluded by saying: So far the problem has been left without a solution. It is not clear what the motivation was or what decision was made by whom and it has not been made clear where these people are living or how. There was no choice but to complain in a pre-agenda speech on 18 July along with other complaints. Even though the public relations office of the Bakhtaran governor general's office in an ETTELA'AT article on 29 August denied everything, the speed of the research has to be praised. But unfortunately they only sit in judgement. I hereby request the appropriate officials to look into this case and carry out the legal procedures.

Letter by 160 Majles deputies to the president: One hundred and sixty Majles deputies have written a letter to Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani asking him to stop interviews by executive officials with regard to a pay rise for civil servants and more creature comforts for the people. The full text of the letter is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.
To Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin, the dear brother Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, respected president of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
Greetings and salutations.

Since interviews by officials have a direct affect on society and the everyday life of the people, especially interviews that promise pay rises and more comforts for the people, repeated time and time again, with huge headlines saying that civil servants will get twice their pay and a bonus if the Majles approves. This raises expectations. It often causes inflation to grow, and upsets the balance in the economy and the market. Since passing or not passing such laws cannot be predicted by the Majles, we hereby request that you ask officials to keep in mind the imam's statement—peace be unto him—who said that publicity should come after the fact. They should seriously avoid such interviews. In the meantime the Majles is ready for all types of cooperation to improve the living standards of the government civil servants.

The bills passed by the Majles:
The first item on the agenda was to continue looking into the bill to collect some government funds to be spent on specific projects. Because the suggestion of the deputies was not passed, the bill was sent to the joint commission for planning and budget, and finance and economy in order to be investigated.

Mr Alviri, the head of the plan and budget commission commented on the bill and said: This bill will not create a new tax. From the 80 articles that there are in the bill, practically all of them are items that have been repeated in the annual budget for the nation. Last February, the government made a separate bill out of it so as not to keep repeating it. Except for three or four details to do with traffic fines, foreign citizens, transport into the country and registration rights, there is nothing else that is different. Even exit visa fees have remained the same.

It is worth mentioning that the deadline for putting the bill into practice was passed at the last open session of the Majles but because it contradicted the regulations, there was another vote taken which was not passed and was rejected.

The report by RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent from yesterday's open session of the Majles indicates that the report by the guidance and Islamic art commission with regard to the legal plan to implement Article 175 of the Constitution was in the supervisory section, received from the Council of Guardians.

In this connection the corrections made by the commission for those parts that the Council of Guardians complained about, were put to the vote, but the corrections were not approved. The mentioned plan has therefore been sent back to the commission for further corrections.

The third item was the first round of discussions of the commission drawing up the internal regulations for the Majles in connection with the rejection of the legal plan to form a commission for Article 76 of the Constitution. The details of this plan were put to the vote but they were not passed.

According to this report the fourth item on the agenda was in connection with the legal rejection of a proposed footnote to article 170 of the internal regulations of the Majles. Following speeches by those in favor and those against the plan, there was a vote but it did not pass.

The fifth item on the agenda was the urgent addition of a footnote called number three to clause nine of the law dealing with landlords and tennants dated 3 May 1983. Following discussions on the urgency of the issue, the matter was put to the vote and it was accepted.

It is worth noting that because the time-limit has run out for refugees of the imposed war who are living in rented homes, some deputies brought up the urgent plan to try and extend the time limit for these refugees' living quarters.

The last item on the agenda was a report by the joint commission for post and telegraph, energy and health and welfare with regard to the rejection of adding several

footnotes to articles 21 and 33 of the law of fair distribution of water dated 7 March 1983. Because of a lack of time further discussions on the subject were postponed until the next open session of the Majles. The Majles will have an open session tomorrow morning.

Tehran-Moscow Aras River Dam Agreement Signed

LD0710163190 Tehran IRNA in English 1424 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 7, IRNA—After 20 years of negotiations, Tehran and Moscow have finally agreed to jointly build a dam at the border river Aras in the Khoda-Afarin, northeast of Tabriz. The agreement to build the Khoda Afarin dam was reached at a meeting between visiting Soviet Deputy Minister of Energy Simonov and Energy Minister Bijan Namdar Zanganeh, here yesterday.

Construction work on the dam is to start soon, it was announced in the meeting. Zanganeh said that construction of the Khoda Afarin dam and of another one at Qazqal'ehsi region could open a new chapter in mutual cooperation in the field of dam construction and hydroelectric power.

He expressed hope that the visit to Tehran of Simonov and his entourage could help speed up the projects as well as reconstruction of the 2nd unit of Ramin power station in Ahvaz which was damaged during the imposed war. The two also agreed on a plan to expand both the Ramin power station and the Martyr Mohammad Montazeri power plant in Isfahan. Simonov expressed hope that technical cooperation between the two countries would further expand in the future.

Border Export Trade Begins With USSR 22 Oct

LD2210200690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Within the framework of economic understandings between the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] and the USSR, with the inauguration of an international transport line, the first of our country's international transport trucks in Soviet territory arrived this morning during ceremonies on Iran's Astara border.

The managing director of the IRI's International Transport Company, in an interview with the Central News Unit, announced: Following the agreement signed a month and a half ago between road transport officials of Iran and the Soviet Union, 40 Iranian international transport trucks will be responsible daily for the export and import of goods to and from the Soviet Union. Also, border crossings between the border inhabitants of the IRI and Soviet Azerbaijan will start tomorrow on two border points of East Azerbaijan. Our correspondent reports from Tabriz:

[Unidentified reporter] The governor general of East Azerbaijan said in an interview with reporters: In implementing a memorandum of understanding between the USSR and the IRI, from 23 October border crossings by border inhabitants of the two countries will begin from the border points of Bileh-Sovar-Moghan and Jolfa, in East Azerbaijan and, in accordance with the understanding reached, 1,200 border inhabitants of the two countries who live within a 45 km limit can travel, twice a week, and up to 15 days, without passport formalities.

The governor general of East Azerbaijan pointed to the organization of the first industrial trade and cultural fair in Baku, central city of Soviet Azerbaijan, and said: In this fair, which will be held from 11-21 November, and in which 196 production and service units will be participating, industrial, mineral, and foodstuff products from the provinces of East and West Azerbaijan will be exhibited, and it is expected that an important step will be taken in expanding the border province transactions of the IRI with neighbor republics in the Soviet Union.

Energy Ministry, UN Sign Dam Construction Pact

LD2110184190 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] A contract on dam construction technical and advisory cooperation has been exchanged between the Energy Ministry and the United Nations. The Energy Ministry announced that the foreign currency value of the contract was over 350,000 dollars, which has been secured from UN special funds.

This contract will be implemented by exchanging specialists for transfers of technology and achieving technical self-sufficiency in dam construction and projects to expand [water] resources. The Energy Ministry's water experts will become familiar with the latest methods and existing international technology in their relevant fields of specialization and will increase their efficiency in solving the technical problems of large projects to expand the water resources of the country.

Velayati Meets With Comoros Foreign Minister

LD2010124190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Excerpt] The foreign minister of the Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros, who is in Tehran at the head of a delegation, met and held talks with our country's Foreign Minister, Mr. Velayati. In the meeting, the Foreign Minister of Comoros stressed his country's interest in having satisfactory relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran. He elaborated on the negative aspects of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and praised the Islamic Republic of Iran's stance on this matter. He further congratulated our country for its successes in achieving its rights.

According to the Central News Unit, Mr. Velayati welcomed the Foreign Minister of Comoros and announced Iran's readiness to give technical assistance to that country.

Mr. Velayati added: We comprehend the negative effects of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait on the international situation, in our region, and on the poor countries. We oppose

any change in the geography of the region and we call for the complete withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwaiti soil.

The foreign minister of our country said: We oppose the presence of foreign forces in the area under the guise of regional security, and we believe that the security of the region must be provided by the countries of the Persian Gulf area. Mr. Velayati continued: We fully support your sovereign rights over Mayotte Islands. [passage omitted]

Velayati Welcomes Spain's Offer To Expand Ties

LD1810190490 Tehran IRNA in English 1631 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Text] Tehran, Oct 18, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati on Thursday received a written message from his Spanish counterpart Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez expressing the Madrid government's interest in expanding ties with Iran. The message was submitted to Velayati by the Spanish Foreign Ministry Director General Dezcallar who also said Fernandez-Ordonez was willing to pay a visit to Tehran at an appropriate date.

Velayati said the Islamic Republic was ready to promote ties with Madrid and welcomes the visit to Tehran of the Spanish foreign minister. The Spanish official also met with deputy foreign minister for Euro-American affairs Mahmoud Vaezi and discussed mutual ties and the Persian Gulf crisis triggered by Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

Habibi Receives Omani Agriculture Minister

LD2210120890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Oman's minister of agriculture and fisheries met and conferred with Mr. Habibi, the first vice president, before noon today. In that meeting Oman's minister of agriculture and fisheries called for the expansion and deepening of ties between the two countries. He termed his talks with our country's ministers of agriculture and construction jihad as positive, and said: The countries of the region should regard the Islamic Republic of Iran as a role model in terms of the attainment of self-sufficiency in agriculture and foodstuffs.

In that meeting, the first vice president of our country remarked on the growing relations between Iran and Oman, and said: The issues of the region have turned our attention to the fact that relations should be based on Islamic principles and a sense of fraternity. Mr. Habibi also pointed to some of the guidelines of Imam Khomeyni, may God's blessing be upon him, based on giving priority to the issue of self-sufficiency in the field of agriculture and added: We are determined to attain self-sufficiency with respect to domestic agricultural needs, and to increase our exports in numerous fields.

On the Persian Gulf crisis, the first vice president said: Iraq should withdraw its forces from Kuwait unconditionally, the alien forces must also leave the region, and issues related to the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman, as well as the security of the region should be resolved through the expansion of cooperation between the governments of the region.

Ghanaian Government Delegation Ends Visit

AB1910170290 Accra Domestic Service in English 18 GMT 17 Oct 90

[Text] A Ghana Government delegation, led by a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Captain Kojo Tsikata, has ended a three-day official visit to Iran. The delegation held a series of meetings with the Iranian President, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and other top government officials on matters of interest to the their countries. At the meetings, both sides expressed satisfaction at the nature of relations that the two governments had established and used the opportunity to review other bilateral, regional, and international affairs. The two countries are to convene the inaugural session of the Iran-Ghana joint commission for economic, technical, scientific, and cultural cooperation in Accra before the end of the year.

On the current crisis in the Gulf, both sides coademned the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and called for the withdrawal of Iraqi forces and the restoration of Kuwaiti sovereignty. They also criticized Israel for the killing of 21 Palestinians last week in Jerusalem and underlined their firm support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people.

Touching on events in Africa, Ghana and Iran welcomed developments in Namibia as well as the ongoing struggle of the oppressed people in South Africa. They expressed satisfaction at the mediation efforts of Ecowas [Economic Community of West African States] in the Liberian crisis. On other issues, the two countries expressed support for the Afghan people's determination to restore their national independence and unity as well as the restoration of democracy and peace in the Lebanon. The two countries also look foward to the next Nonaligned Movement ministerial conference scheduled for Accra in September next year and pledged to cooperate to ensure its success.

On behalf of the Ghana Government, Capt. Tsikata invited the Iranian vice president, Mr. Hamid Mirzadeh, to pay an officiai visit to Ghana at his earliest convenince.

Khamene'i Appoints Representative to Baluchi Sunnis

LD2110110690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Excerpt] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the great leader of the Islamic revolution and the Vali-e amr [guardian of the cause] of the Muslims, today, in a decree graciously appointed Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Hasan Rabbani as his representative in charge of the affairs pertaining to the ulema, the seminaries, and the religious and propaganda centers belonging to the Sunni inhabitants of Baluchestan [province]. [passage omitted]

Council for Unification of Denominations Formed

LD2010123490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] The Council for Unification of Islamic Denominations is a world center belonging to all Muslims and all Islamic denominations, and its objective is to bring jurisprudence and ideological issues among the world Muslims closer together.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Va'ez-Zadeh, secretary general of the Council for Unification of Islamic Denominations, in a press and Radio-TV interview said: Unification of Islamic denominations is not meant either to merge the denominations or to engage in deals on them. Rather, the objective is to inform clerics of Islamic denominations and all Muslims of the fact that they share close common areas with each other from the point of view of Islamic pillars and principles.

Stressing the fact that the establishment of the Council will fill a major vacuum in the world of Islam and that it will be a strong barrier against the propaganda tricks of the enemies of Islam, the secretary general of the said Council said: In that Council, we will try to liberate Islam from the malevolent consequences of the policies with which Islam was afflicted in the past. We want to devise a clear framework to identify and find the roots of divisive issues.

He said that the High Council and the General Assembly of the Council for Unification of Denominations would soon be formed and their staff would be appointed from among the outstanding ulema of the world of Islam. He then said: Once the Council is active and once the expert committees are set up—on such fields as jurisprudence, the Koran, Sunnah [the Prophet's practice), Hadith [Traditions], mysticism, and ethics—many existing doubts and negative assumptions in the minds of the world Muslim public toward different denominations of Islam will be removed. Then suitable ground for the unity of the Islamic ummah will be created.

Civil Service Official Returns From DPRK

LD1210124190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Oct 90

[Text] Razavi, vice president in charge of the Civil Service, who headed a delegation on an official visit to North Korea, returned to Tehran last night after submitting a message from Hashemi-Rafsanjani, our country's president, to the leader of North Korea, Kim Il-song.

After his arrival in Tehran, he said: The leader of North Korea conveyed his greetings to the esteemed leader of the Islamic revolution, and thanked Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, our country's president, for his message. He also referred to the friendly relations between the two countries, and the positive bilateral cooperation in the political economic, and cultural field.

Nepal & Bhutan

King, Prime Minister Confer on Constitution

BK2210154790 Hong Kong AFP in English 1524 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Kathmandu, Oct 22 (AFP)—King Birendra conferred with Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai on Monday in order to finalize the draft of Nepal's new constitution, a royal palace statement said. The statement, carried by state radio, said "the king will continue his discussions with the prime minister Tuesday also." Details of their talks were not immediately available.

The king had promised the promulgation of the constitution by October 17, but the royal palace proposed controversial amendments in the draft that would allow the king to retain sovereign authority and emergency powers. The amendments were submitted for approval to the Council of Ministers on Sunday in a counter draft prepared by the royal palace. The council met earlier Monday to discuss the constitutional crisis.

"I will continue my earnest efforts to promulgate a new constitution which would guarantee the people's fundamental rights, sovereignty to be transferred to the people from the crown, establishment of the full-fledged multiparty system and the constitutional monarchy," Mr. Bhattarai told reporters Monday after his meeting with the monarch. [passage omitted]

Premier Opposes Draft

BK2210170490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1648 GMT 22 Oct 90

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Kathmandu, Oct 22 (AFP)—Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai told King Birendra on Monday that his government opposed controversial changes to Nepal's draft constitution proposed by the royal palace, the premier's spokesman said.

The two men met after the Council of Ministers, led by Mr. Bhattarai, held a more than three-hour crisis meeting to discuss the amendments which would allow the king to retain sovereign authority and emergency powers. The king had promised the promulgation of the constitution by last Wednesday [17 October], but the royal palace on Sunday submitted its new amendments to the Council of Ministers for approval in a counter draft.

At its meeting Monday, the council reacted strongly against the proposed changes, said Mathbar Singh Thapa, spokesman for the Prime Minister's Office. The council adopted a unanimous resolution saying the king should honor and promulgate the original draft constitution already prepared by the Constitution Recommendation Commission (CRC) and approved by the council.

The prime minister conveyed the council's decision to the king when they met at the royal palace, Mr. Thapa

said, adding that Mr. Bhattarai also urged the king to fix a date for promulgating the original draft constitution.

"I will continue my earnest efforts to promulgate a new constitution which would guarantee the people's fundamental rights, sovereignty to be transferred to the people from the crown, establishment of the full-fledged multiparty system and the constitutional monarchy," Mr. Bhattarai told reporters after his meeting with the king.

A royal palace statement, broadcast by state radio, said the two leaders met in order to finalize the draft and would continue their talks Tuesday. The latest draft prepared by the royal palace attempts to retain all executive, legislative and judicial power for the monarchy, as well certain emergency powers, according to informed sources.

Under the original draft prepared by the CRC, the king was made only the head of state to reign but not to rule. It stipulated that the king would have to follow the advice of the council in every respect. Ganesh Man Singh, the supreme leader of the Nepali Congress Party, the main faction in Nepal's interim government, said Monday "It would be unfortunate for all Nepalese if the counter draft of the constitution would be promulgated."

The head of the pro-democratic Nepal Student Union (NSU), the student wing of the Nepali Congress, blamed the palace for being involved in a "conspiracy of counterrevolutionary and reactionary forces." NSU president Bal Krishna Khand described the counter draft as an attempt to steal the gains of the people's movement, adding such a move was deplorable.

Mr. Khand expressed his determination to wage a struggle if the constitution is promulagted against the spirit of the people. Hundreds of people died in demonstrations for democracy that culminated in April when the king ordered a 30-year-old partyless form of government to be disbanded and appointed an interim government until elections are held.

"Our next move is to encircle the royal palace if there would be any distortion in the constitution," Mr. Khand warned. The statement issued Monday by the king's press secretariat denied having any knowledge of Mr. Bhattarai's reported threat to resign over the issue of the counter draft.

The statement regretted the "systematic attempt by some political circles to bring a rift between the king and the people creating tension in the country." It said "such rumour will not serve the national interest at a time when the entire national resources of the country should be directed towards promulgation of the constitution paving the way for holding general elections." The statement warned the people to be vigilant against such vested elements.

Cabinet Rejects Counterproposal

BK2310095390 Hong Kong AFP in English 0940 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] Kathmandu, Oct 23 (AFP)—The Cabinet agreed Tuesday to adopt minor changes to Nepal's draft constitution that were proposed by King Birendra, but kept the fundamental elements unaltered, a Cabinet source said. The source said the 16 changes concerned "technical and procedural" matters.

The draft constitution still contains the four permanent features agreed to by the Council of Ministers, or Cabinet, on October 10, the source said. Those features are: a constitutional monarchy, a multiparty system under a bicameral parliament, sovereignty to be vested in the people and the full guarantee of fundamental rights.

Tuesday's Cabinet meeting, presided over by Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai, also decided to request the king to promulgate the new Constitution by Friday to avoid uncertainty and instability in the country. Mr. Bhattarai will convey the Cabinet's decisions to the king at the Royal Palace later Tuesday, the source said. King Birendra had promised the promulgation of the Constitution by last Wednesday.

But the Royal Palace on Sunday submitted a counter-draft to the Cabinet, proposing controversial changes that would allow the king to retain sovereign authority and emergency powers. The Cabinet met Monday and adopted a resolution rejecting the Royal Palace's counter-draft, saying the king should honor and promulgate the original one. Meanwhile, Nepal's political parties, including those that make up the interim government, continued Tuesday to threaten to launch protests unless a democratic constitution is promulgated immediately.

Pakistan

Bhutto Wraps Up PPP Campaign Tour in Punjab

BK2310003890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1733 GMT 22 Oct 90

[By Shah Alam]

[Excerpt] Shekhupura, Pakistan, Oct 22 (AFP)—Deposed Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Monday drove from village to village exhorting the people of the crucial Punjab province to vote for her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) in general elections Wednesday, witnesses said.

Racing to meet the official midnight deadline to wind up her campaign in the provincial capital Lahore, she started out from Faisalabad in the morning but it took her more than seven hours to cover the 175 kilometres (110 miles) to here.

The ousted prime minister's caravan of cars was joined by trucks, tractors, motorbikes and other vehicles on her way to Lahore. [passage omitted]

Campaign Violence, Six Dead

BK2310004990 Hong Kong AFP in English 1851 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 22 (AFP)—Troops began security operations in Pakistan Monday as six people died in pre-election violence in a Punjab town bordering India, witnesses and officials said.

In the worst incident of its kind during the campaign six people were gunned down in the border town of Sialkot city late Sunday by unknown assailants who escaped, police said.

The dead were said to be supporters of a People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) candidate who were ambushed as they returned from campaigning in a nearby village.

Tension was also reported in Rawalpindi city, adjacent to the capital, where opponents pulled down hoardings and tore apart banners of rival parties.

Witnesses said soldiers in battle gear were patrolling the streets before the end of official campaigning at midnight in Wednesday's general elections.

The bitterly contested snap polls follow the August 6 ouster of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's government by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan on charges of misconduct.

Ms. Bhutto's Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) leads the four-party PDA against the eight-party Islamic Democratic Alliance (IJI) which dominates the interim government.

The election commission had earlier asked for army help to reinforce security during the polls after the government said it had discovered a plot to sabotage the elections.

Army patrols have also been stepped up in the ethnically divided southern port city of Karachi.

Jatoi Asks People To Vote Freely, Fearlessly

BK2310020690 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] In a message on the occasion of the conclusion of the election campaign, Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has expressed the hope that an elected leadership will emerge as a result of tomorrow's free, fair, and impartial elections, which will lead the nation toward prosperity and stability. The prime minister urged the Pakistani people to exercise their right of franchise with full confidence and without any fear, so as to keep the nation marching on the path of democracy. He said nobody has thus far been able to harm the election process and the threats to sabotage the elections will, God willing, prove unsuccessful at all stages. The prime minister said he has full faith in the power of the people who, he hoped, will reject external interference in any form while electing their leaders.

Letter From U.S. Senator Threatens Aid Cut

BK2310090890 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 23 Oct 90 p 10

[By Our Special Correspondent]

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Oct. 22—The Special Assistant to the Prime Minister, Mr. Kamal Azfar, today released to the Press a letter written by US Senator Barbara A. Mikulski to President Ghulam Ishaq Khan threatening in undiplomatic language to cut off US aid.

Mr. Kamal Azfar said it was the same letter that Ms Benazir Bhutto had thanked Senator Barbara for her efforts and thus encouraged the cut off of aid.

He also released copies of letters of various US Senators addressed to the President of Pakistan had said that the tone of these letters was offensive in the highest degree to say the least.

He said it betrayed a colonial mentality and for this "do we have to thank the Mohtarma [referring to Benazir Bhutto]" he asked and added she could tell her pro-Zionist friends that Pakistan was not a colony to any power.

APP [ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN] adds: Mr. Kamal Azfar said the reiteration of the propaganda about the credibility of the elections, at a time when the nation was at the threshold of polls, "is no service to the nation or democracy". He said: "Army attempt to create doubts about the elections or create violence amounts to indirect invitation to martial law".

"IJI [Islamic Democratic Alliance] will not allow such tactics to succeed", he said and added, elections were being held under the same sets of rules under which last elections (1988) were conducted which afforded PPP [Pakistan People's Party] to form the government.

Mr. Azfar said, it was the most undemocratic attitude of the PPP leadership "to propound the theory that if PPP won the elections, they will be termed as fair and if they lost it, they will be termed as rigged".

He said it was noteworthy that the Election Commission had dismissed a petition of Air Marshal (Retd) Asghar Khan about the possibility of rigging in the forthcoming elections.

"This very Asghar Khan had led the country into martial law in 1977," he said, and referred to the letters the PDA [People's Democratic Alliance] leaders had then written to the Chiefs of the Armed Services.

He said, the Election Commission had held that there was no merit in the complaint and it should be lodged when he has some proof about the propaganda of rigging.

"This clearly proves that the impressions being created in the minds of the public by the PDA leaders are imaginary and without any foundation or substance," he said.

The general elections were a test for the political maturity of the people who had demonstrated time and again

that they could see through the confused propaganda carried out by some political elements not amicable with the "established norms of political working".

"As the pieces of the previous propaganda strategy are being shattered one by one either by the courts or decisions of the Election Commission, the PDA was bent upon to add new straw to their destroyed nest of propaganda and have started showing its future pretentions in the shape of wild accusations about the possible agitation which they could resort to after the elections", he said.

In this context, he said the public speeches in Rawalpindi addressed by the PPP Co-chairperson were worth notice by all the political elements in the country. He said, if tall claims or starting agitation after the elections were made before the elections, they clearly manifested the defeated mantality.

Mr. Azfar said the ruling family has a one-point manifesto that the family should rule or else the country may go up in flames. This had now been confirmed by Begum Nusrat Bhutto in TV interview that if her daughter fails, she may be given a chance as Prime Minister. In this way, the country will have a succession family rule.

The letter of Senator Barbara A. Mikulski, dated August 6 addressed to US President George Bush, he said explains Ms. Benazir's involvement in the suspension of all economic and military aid to Pakistan. [passage omitted]

Editorial Views Debate Over U.S. Aid Embargo

BK2110115290 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 21 Oct 90 p 4

[Editorial: "U.S. Aid, Politicians, People and Polls"]

[Text] Although the two embattled politicians from Sindh do not see eye to eye on most of the political issues of the day, both Ms Benazir Bhutto and Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi are at least agreed on how harmful to Pakistan's national interests the U.S. aid cut-off has been. The former Prime Minister and the caretaker head of government are, therefore, sparing no effort to hold each other responsible for the suspension of American aid which, they would have the nation believe, is a great disservice to the country. Mr Jatoi adopted a rare philosophic demeanour the other day in pointing out that internal political difference should not be applied by any of the contending sides to such a core area of national interest as American alms for this poor nation. The PPP [Pakistan People's Party], on the other hand, has kept on harping on the tune that the great tragedy of U.S. aid suspension has once again befallen this wretched land for no reason other than the "unfair" dismissal of the Benazir Bhutto government.

But Ms Bhutto has now come out with a queer twist to the logic. Claimed she at Rawalpindi's public meeting on Friday that while her government was going ahead with the agreements on nuclear power production with France and China, she had been thrown out of office. The natural extension of the argument would be that the development of Pakistan's nuclear programme has thus been effectively thwarted with her ouster from power. But then what is one to make of the U.S. approach to this very question, wherein not only has Washington suspended aid to Pakistan for the latter's supposed progress in the nuclear field, but has also drawn an implicit connection between the rivival of assistance and Benazir's return to power?

Unless Ms Benazir Bhutto wishes to subscribe to the absurd notion that the United States is willing to trust Pakistan's nuclear programme for only so long as she is in power in this country, her case on this score is self-defeating. Also, it is well worth recalling that even while she was the Prime Minister of Pakistan, the United States made clear to her its reservations about her effective control over the country's nuclear development. America had taken it upon itself to give her a "briefing" on what Washington maintained was the true nature of Pakistan's nuclear programme, during Ms Bhutto's visit to the United States as Prime Minister.

But the more pathetic aspect of her approach to the basic question of U.S. aid suspension is, as noted above, shared equally, keenly, be her replacement at Islamabad. Both Ms Bhutto and Mr Jatoi have chosen to put the wrong foor forward by overlooking the fundamental areas of national interest inherent at this stage in the U.S. aid controversy. Although Ms Bhutto has chosen, rather belatedly, to answer criticism of her and Begum Bhutto's alleged involvement in the aid cut-off, the former prime minister has at the same time justified American action by passing the buck on to the caretakers. Neither Ms Bhutto nor Mr Jatoi seem to be aware of the pressing reality that the people of this country view the current aid suspension as a Godsend to extricate Pakistan from America's exploitative clutches. The present electioneering phase is clearly no time for any of the political contenders to be apologetic on the core issue of Pak-U.S. relations. The people of Pakistan are not prepared to pay the price being asked by Washington for its yearly handout.

As pointed out earlier in these columns, our politicians engaged currently in the fierce electoral contest could have taken courage in adopting positions which came closer to popular feelings of the electorate with regard to Pakistan's relations with the United States, by virtue of the clear note of nationalistic defiance struck in this instance by the key sections of our permanent Establishment. That opportunity has, unfortunately, been missed by most of the politicians; and they may have to pay a heavy price in terms of their electoral prospects in elections which are now round the corner. Of the major political actors on the national scene today, Mian Nawaz Sharif is perhaps the only one to have stated in unequivocal terms that Pakistan would not accept U.S. dictation in vital areas of national policy in exchange for American aid.

The United States may well have perceived the present situation in Pakistan as being particularly conducive to

Washington's blackmail. Our dismal economic situation which is likely to anything but improve in the days ahead, the massive concentration of Indian troops along Pakistan's border, New Delhi's heightening atrocities on freedom fighters in occupied Kashmir, and the far from settled political scenario within this country, especially on the eve of elections, does add up to a formidable agenda of challenges. But what seems to have escaped American calculations is the inadvisability, in terms of its own interests, of forcing the issue of Pak-U.S. relations at a time when the normally irrelevant masses of this land are being provided a rare opportunity to give a verdict through polling on such a sensitive issue.

It is unlikely that even the best efforts by Ms Bhutto, Mr Jatoi and those of the politicians who refuse to shed their traditional mindsets of viewing the path to power in Pakistan starting from Washington, would be able to detract the importance of the issue in popular perceptions at the hustings. As things as stand today, given the total absence of any meaningful choice before the electorate on other areas of socio-economic concerns, Pakistan's relations with the United States with all they entail for this country, could emerge as the single most important question before the electorate come Wednesday.

Lahore Bar Association Criticizes U.S. Policy

BK2110155390 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] The Lahore High Court Bar Association has criticized the U.S. interference in Pakistan's internal affairs and has termed it as a violation of Pakistan's dignity and sovereignty. The bar at its meeting in Lahore today, adopted a resolution stressing Pakistan's self-reliance. By another resolution, it expressed regret over the frigid attitude of the United States toward the Kashmir issue.

Minister Discusses Regional Events, Palestine

BK2110085790 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Pakistan has urged the Nonaligned countries to take notice of the reign of terror unleashed by India on the people of occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The call was made by the federal minister for health, special education, and social welfare and women affairs, Dr. Nur Jehan Panezai, while representing Pakistan at the Havana conference of the NAM [Nonaligned Movement] information ministers. She told the NAM forum that the Indian forces in the occupied territory are violating human rights on a massive scale, where thousands of people have been killed, maimed and incarcerated, women have been molested, and property has been most wantonly burnt and destroyed.

Dr. (Panezoi) told the conference that the situation in Afghanistan has also remained a matter of concern for Pakistan. She condemned the killings by Isreali forces of the Palestinian people in the occupied territory and expressed Pakistan's full support and sympathy for them.

Editorial Condemns Indian Atrocities on Kashmiris

BK2110130590 Lahore THE NATION in English 21 Oct 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Running Berserk in Kashmir"]

[Text] The latest spate of killings of Kashmiris at the hands of the Indian Army, and mostly of those who were not even fighting them, would give credence to reports that India plans to devastate the Valley and kill all the youth there so that no one lives to talk of liberation, and the Valley when liberated, becomes a place not worth living in. Killing of nearly fifty people and burning down of 734 houses in just one day, goes to support this thesis. Burning down of houses with elderly people still trapped in them, is going to set some sort of a record in the grisly tales of violation of human rights that India keeps compiling from Meerut to Karnataka. It also shows that India has now given up all pretence of finding a so-called political solution—which means finding a place for its supporters in Kashmir—for the simple reason that there are no supporters left. Mufti Mohammad Sayeed [Indian home minister], the only Indian agent, who often approves of the blood-bath of his fellow countrymen, lives safely away under Hindu protection in New Delhi.

The Kashmiris, who have suffered a long ordeal of torture and slavery at the hands of their Hindu rulers, first in the form of the Maharajas and then by the Nehru dynasty of India, have finally decided that they have had enough. It is unfortunate that finding the West preoccupied with the Gulf, the Kashmiris have not been able to find a forum to earn any meaningful support for their struggle. The Indian ban on the entry of all foreigners, including those from the world human rights organisations, has also prevented the full exposure of all the tales of atrocities that Indian soldiers have been committing against the Kashmiri Muslims. Still, enough is known through reports of Indians themselves, to arouse world conscience to the plight of the people of Kashmir. A great responsibility in this regard rests on the government of Pakistan. Even though involved in elections and economic problems, it should keep pressing the cause of the Kashmiris in every available world forum. It should particularly endeavour to get the UN investigate the crimes against humanity that India is committing.

Bhutto Foresees Possibility of Arrest

BK1910113690 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 19 Oct 90 p 10

[By Mujtaba Akhter]

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 18—Former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has said the possibility of her arrest in the near future couldn't be ruled out as, she alleged, the government has made a point to keep her out of the political scene. Such a plan, however, would not work for

she was not among those who backed out, she said. No amount of persuasion or violence could deviate her from her stand, she said.

She was talking to Pressmen on arrival from Karachi last night.

Pushing PPP [Pakistan People's Party] workers behind the bars will do no good as it isn't the answer to the problem the nation is facing, she said. She said the IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] was a combination of people having contradictory views on almost all national issues. Such individuals with lust for power have no time to think of national issues, she said.

When asked why she didn't want to be interviewed by PTV [Pakistan Television] men, she said PTV is a national organisation but the sad fact is that most of its programmes lacked impartiality. She had been requested for interview but when she wished interviewers of her choice, PTV high-ups turned a deaf ear, she said. A reasonable chunk of PTV transmission is one-sided propaganda. She said it hurts her to be accused of letting down any individual or organisation but the hard truth is that some of the ads appearing in the print media were nothing but rubbish.

Ms. Benazir reacted sharply when asked if she has anything to do with the suspension of U.S. aid to Pakistan. She would be the last to think of such a move for she was a patriotic person and would resist all such moves which could plunge her country in any trouble, she said. In her opinion, the caretaker government could be rightly blamed for the present unfortunate situation.

She alleged that it was Mr. Jatoi's government which compromised on the country's nuclear programme. Her mother Nusrat Bhutto visited America to receive an international award, she (Benazir) was given. She spoke of the achievements of her government during her 20-month rule. "We were the ones who secured sixty F-16 aircraft, Mirages and signed agreement to strengthen country's defence capability," she said.

On Thursday morning she left for Peshawar to address a series of election rallies.

Before her departure she was presented a guard of honour by smartly-dressed AJK [Azad Jammu and Kashmir] police contingent at Kashmir House. Along with AJK Prime Minister Mumtaz Rathod and his cabinet she inspected the march-past of the police.

When she was taken to police march-past to take salute, top AJK officers including ministers rose, to their feet as mark of respect. The national anthem was played followed by music and band show.

The AJK government deployed a special team of commandos to look after Ms. Benazir Bhutto during her overnight stay in Islamabad. At the end of the ceremony she was driven to the airport in AJK Prime Minister's car with full protocol.

Court Ordered To Hold Bhutto Jurisdiction Writ

BK2310031290 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] The Supreme Court has directed the Sindh High Court not to issue any final order on the writ petitions filed by Benazir Bhutto challenging the jurisdiction of special courts so long as the Supreme Court does not hear today the federal government's petition seeking a permission to appeal. The chief justice, Justice Mohammad Afzal Zulla, issued this directive following a petition filed by Attorney General Aziz A. Munshi seeking a permission to appeal.

Benazir Bhutto's lawyer, Yahya Bakhtiar, had expressed the apprehension in the high court that the special court might announce its final verdict today, disqualifying his client from taking part in elections. The attorney general described the apprehension as erroneous and said there is no possibility of issuance of any final decision today because at this stage the testimonies of witnesses are being recorded in connection with the [presidential] references and that nine witnesses are yet to be examined.

Bhutto Reports Jatoi Nonproliferation Accord

BK2010155590 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0952 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Former Prime Minister of Pakistan Mrs. Benazir Bhutto says that the caretaker government headed by Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has agreed to unconditionally sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Speaking at a public rally in Rawalpindi, Mrs. Bhutto said she has documentary evidence to support her statement.

AIR [All India Radio] Islamabad correspondent Suresh Chopra recalls that the Bush administration recently suspended the American aid to Pakistan to the tune of nearly 600 million dollars on the nuclear issue. According to reports, the U.S. Government has asked Pakistan to throw open its nuclear installations for an international inspection which Pakistan has refused to do.

Speaks on Nuclear Deal

BK2110013090 Karachi DAWN in English 20 Oct 90 pp 1, 12

[From DAWN Islamabad Bureau]

[Text] Rawalpindi, Oct 19—Ousted Prime Minister Benuzir Bhutto has said her popularly elected Government was dismissed to deprive the country of nuclear reprocessing plants for which she had signed agreements with France and China.

Speaking at a mammoth public meeting at Liaquat Bagh on Friday [19 October], the former Premier said that a similar conspiracy had been hatched when the government of her father late Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto was toppled because of his nuclear policy.

The public meeting was arranged by Pakistan Democratic Alliance (PDA) and presided over by a presidium comprising Mr Kabir Ali Wasti (PML) [Pakistan Muslim League], Mazhar Hussain Kazmi (TNFJ) [Terik-i-Nifaz-i-Fiqhh-i-Jafria] and Sufi Gulzar (T.I.) [Tehrik-I-Istiqlali]

Thousands of people of Rawalpindi and Islamabad reached the venue of the public meeting carrying large PPP [Pakistan People's Party] flags and dancing to the tune of PPP election songs.

At many points in the city, from where the PPP Co-Chairperson was to pass, the new election song of PPP, "Ya Allah Ya Rasool, Benazir Be-Qasoor" [Oh God, Oh Prophet, Benazir is Innocent] was being played on public address system and a large number of people waited there to join the procession, although it was not announced that she would be coming in a procession to avoid any undue delay in the public meeting.

People started converging at Liaquat Bagh around 2:00 p.m. and by 5:30 p.m. the grounds were full to their capacity, and those accompanying Ms Bhutto's procession could not enter the ground. A 10-foot high stage was prepared over the already high pedestal cemented stage.

The crowd listened to the PDA leaders partiently for about four hours.

Ms Bhutto was accompanied by AJK [Azad Jammu Kashmir] Prime Minister Raja Munitaz Hussain Rathod.

She devoted a major portion of her 70-minute speech to stress that the main reason for dismissing her was PPP Government's full commitment to acquire nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

Her statement was designed to counter the IJI [Islamic Democratic Alliance] propaganda through newspaper advertisements which suggest that the PPP was against Pakistan's nuclear programme. A four-column frontpage IJI advertisement was carried by almost every local newspaper alleging that the PPP was bent upon "selling" Kahuta in order to come into power.

Ms. Bhutto told the crowd that when she came into power, she was told that no country was ready to provide nuclear reprocessing plant to Pakistan, but despite that she undertook visits to France and China, and invited French President to visit Pakistan and that it was because of her democratic government that Pakistan succeeded in getting two nuclear reprocessing plants.

"It was dismissed to deprive Pakistan of these plants for which I had signed agreements she told the cheering crowds. [no end quote marks as published] She claimed that a handful of politicians wanted to make personal benefits at the cost of national interests.

The former Premier said she was also pressurised to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) unilaterally but she refused to do so. "Now caretaker Prime Minister has assured the foreign countries that the IJI would unflaterally sign the NPT after coming into power," she asserted and referred to the American congressional report in which it has been pointed out that in the entire South Asian region, it were only Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi who had agreed to sign the NPT.

Ms Bhutto said she refused to sign the NPT because India had not signed that. "We are not a small or weak nation that we should sign it unilaterally. I had told them clearly that India will have to sign the NPT before Pakistan signs it," she recalled. "Now the caretaker Governments want to make Pakistan subservient to India and indirectly accepting its hegemony," she said and added "as a leader of a Muslim country I refused to bow to their pressure and accept India's hegemony."

Similarly, she pointed out that soon after coming into power she discarded the "cricket diplomacy" (pursued by General Ziaul Haq) in which India used to "bat" and Pakistan had always been "bowled out". "Instead, I adopted Bhutto diplomacy and told Indian leadership that Pakistan is interested in having good neighbourly relations with India provided that the latter agrees to vacate (Siachen area which we had lost during Ziaul Haq's time and to settle the Kashmir dispute once for all", she said.

She said whenever her opponents were in power, Pakistan had been made the target of aggression by neighbouring India and "we lose a big part of our land." She recalled that in 1971 Pakistan lost East Pakistan, during Zia's regime we lost Siachen, "and now as claimed by Prof Ghafoor we have lost a good part of our land in Chitral area". Ms Bhutto said since her opponents do not enjoy the people's support inside the country they were always on a weak wicket and thus India succeeds in its nefarious designs. "Not an inch of land was lost during my father's time or during my 20-month tenure because India knows that people are behind us and we will retaliate with full force," she claimed.

The deposed Premier said she also faced a similar situation as was being faced today by the caretakers. "But instead of getting nervous I faced these challenges boldly and it was because of my efforts that the U.S. aid was restored which was facing a threat of cut-off. But these inefficient people failed miserably and the U.S. aid has been stopped," she said.

While referring to the allegation of the caretaker ministers that Begum Nusrat Bhutto had been instrumental in cutting off the American aid, she said now the caretakers were trying to make false allegations to cover up their inefficiency. "I had never complained that Nawaz Sharif had been instrumental in aid cut off as they are screaming today," she said making the crowd to burst into laughter.

She said her opponents were inexperienced in international politics and that is why they failed to play any role in the Gulf crisis. She said it was to her credit that Pakistan, for the first time in the history of the country, succeeded in obtaining a unanimous resolution from the

OIC [Islamic Conference Organization] Foreign Ministers Conference in support of Kashmiri freedom fighters.

"If I would have been in power today, Pakistan would have not only provided support to the smaller countries of the Gulf but also to Saudi Arabia and would have played an important and leading role in the Gulf crisis," she claimed.

Referring to the recent visit of Mr Jatoi to the Gulf countries, Ms Bhutto said he was sent by President Ghulam Ishak Khan to follow my precedent but he came back empty-handed. "He brought neither oil nor money," she remarked.

She said it was also because of her foreign policy that freedom struggle gained momentum in occupied Jammu and Kashmir. She said during the Zia and Junejo regimes, Kashmir issue was put in the backyard of the foreign policy but she revived this issue. "Once again Kashmir issue is being ignored. These IJI leaders do not want that Kashmir issue should be discussed at international forums like U.N., NAM [Nonaligned Movement] and at the Superpower summit," she observed.

Ms Bhutto alleged that the interim Prime Minister ghulam Mustafa Jatoi had sent Maulana Kausar Niazi to India with a "secret message" to the Indian leadership that it should support IJI. "In return Jatoi has promised to revive cricket diplomacy. But I must warn them that people will defeat all such leaders who are berraying the Kashmiri freedom fighters. These people are afraid of me because I am a popular leader and enjoying the support of the masses," she said.

Bhutto Allegation Refuted

BK2010170390 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] The minister in charge of local government and rural development and special assistant to the prime minister, Mr. Kamal Azfar, has said there is no question of Pakistan unilaterally signing the Nonproliferation Treaty without India first doing so. He told a news conference in Islamabad today that no assurance whatsoever had been given by the government to the U.S. administration in this regard. He termed the accusation leveled by the former prime minister in the matter as a brazen-faced lie. Mr. Kamal Azfar said the government had now proved that this information had been leaked by the former prime minister and a senior minister as a result of which the Pressler certification had been withheld. He accused them of working against the national interest.

Nawaz Sharif Challenges Claim

BK2010165090 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Islamic Democratic Alliance President Nawaz Sharif has challenged the claim by Pakistan People's Party co-chairperson that she has been ousted from power for furthering the country's nuclear program. He was addressing a number of roadside meetings at various places after his visit to Gujrat. He said that the people cannot be misled by the PPP co-chairperson's claim. He alleged that she is adopting such tactics to safeguard her personal interests instead of the national interests.

Paper Views Need for Consensus on Nuclear Issue

BK2110130090 Lahore THE NATION in English 21 Oct 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Not a Controversial Issue"]

[Text] Ms Benazir Bhutto's reaffirmation that her party will not compromise on the country's nuclear programme should dispel the fear that feuding politicians in a bid to get even with one another may lose sight of the national interest. The nuclear programme is not an issue on which any political party worth the name, regardless of its political orientiation, can offord to take a position different from what has consistently been the country's official stance. And it was not incidental that successive governments in Islamabad refused to give in on this issue, notwithstanding 'bullying and blackmail' by the so-called custodians of 'nuclear non-proliferation'. Needless to say Pakistan has time and again given assurances that it has no intention of making the 'bomb' and is willing to sign the NPT [Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty], provided by the same logic India is also asked to do it. Nuclear capability, regardless of what use it is put to, is an integral part of Pakistan's national security and unless Washington's selective concern for nuclear devices getting into wrong hands, is made more judicious and even-handed, Pakistan should not and hopefully will not under any circumstances consider it a negotiable matter.

Disagreement among political parties on major political issues is an imperative of the democratic process, and particularly on the eye of elections principal contenders for power are prone to highlighting their differences so as to facilitate the electorate's choice. Unfortunately, given the chequered history of elections in the country, the rules of the game for electioneering have not been clearly established and rival parties are often led astray to employ tactics that are liable to harm the national interest much more than hurting their opponents. The nuclear programme, for one, is an area which should have never been a bone of contention, since it is backed by national consensus and far from having any divergence of perceptions on the issue, there is not even scope for varying interpretations. It is not surprising that the Americans are using the 'aid' leverage to pressurise Pakistan on the nuclear issue, their antipathy to it is not a sudden development and they have in the passt too resorted to different tactics, depending on circumstances, to cow down the poor debtor. And if accepted as a national challenge there could be ways and means of dealing with it. Nevertheless, what matters most is that the nation, as a whole, regardless of party affillations, should stand united on this issue, and not allow it to be used by either side as a gimmick to score points.

President Promulgates Political Parties Rules

BK2310023890 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] The president has promulgated an ordinance to so amend the Political Parties Act as to check floor crossing by members of parliament and provincial assemblies. The ordinance, called the Political Parties Amendment Ordinance 1990, was issued today and comes into force with immediate effect. The ordinance says a member of a house shall be deemed to defect a political party if he votes or abstains from voting in such house contrary to any direction issued by the disciplinary committee of the parliamentary party to which he belongs or by the parliamentary party itself without obtaining in either case prior permission of the disciplinary committee [sentence as heard]. Any member violating directions of the disciplinary committee shall be deemed to have defected if the parliamentary party to which belongs does not condone his action within 30 days. The defection shall also apply to a member who accepts any office of or under the goverment of a political party other than the one to which he belongs without permission in writing of his parliamentary party.

The ordinance is applicable to political parties, including an alliance or combination of two or more political parties which participate in an election under a common symbol.

'Text' of Ordinance

BK2310084790 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 23 Oct 90 p 1, 6

[Text] Islamabad, Oct. 22—President Ishaq Khan today promulgated an ordinance to amend the Political Parties Act to check floor-crossing by members of the parliament and the provincial assemblies.

The Ordinance, titled "The Political Parties Amendment Ordinance, 1990", comes into forces with immediate effect.

It may be recalled that the President had expressed on several occasions strong views against the practice of floor-crossing, commonly known as horse trading. He had also counted it among the reasons for the dissolution of the national assembly, both in the Dissolution Order and in his address to the nation on August 6.

Following is the full text of the Ordinance:

An Ordinance further to amend the Political Parties Act, 1962.

Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Political Parties Act, 1962 (III of 1962), for the purpose hereinafter appearing;

And whereas the National Assembly is not in session and the president is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary to take immediate action;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of Article 89 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the President is pleased to make and promulgate the following Ordinance:

1. Short title and commencement—(1) This Ordinance may be called the Political Parties (Amendment) Ordinance, 1990. (2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 8B, Act III of 1962—In the Political Parties Act 1962 (III of 1962), in Section 8B, for the explanation at the end the following shall be substituted, namely:

Explanation—For the purpose of this section:

(a) A member of a House shall be deemed to defect a political party if he:

(i) Votes or abstains from voting in such House contrary to any direction issued by the disciplinary committee of the Parliamentary Party to which he belongs or, if there be no disciplinary committee of such Parliamentary Party, by the Parliamentary Party itself without obtaining in either case prior permission of the disciplinary committee or, as the case may be, of the Parliamentary Party and such voting or abstention has not been condoned by the Parliamentary Party within 30 days from the date of such voting or abstention; for the unexpired period of his term as such Member, unless he has been re-elected at a by-election held after his disqualification;

(ii) accepts any office of or under the government of a political party other than the one to which he belongs without obtaining the prior permission in writing of the Parliamentary Party to which he belongs;

(b) "House" means a House of the Majlis-i-Shoora (Parliament) and includes a Provincial Assembly.

(c) "Disciplinary Committee of a Parliamentary Party" means a Committee of not less than five members who for the time being are elected by the Parliamentary Party concerned;

(d) "Parliamentary Party", in relation to a Member of a House belonging to a political party, means the group consisting of all the members of the House for the time being belonging to that political party; and

(d) "Political party" also includes an alliance or combination of two or more political parties which participate in an election under a common symbol.

Sri Lanka

Indian External Minister To Visit 11-13 Nov

BK2110103190 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0545 GMT 21 Oct 90

["OANA/Pool" Item]

[Text] Colombo, 21 Oct (LANKAPUVATH)—Indian External Affairs Minister Inder Kumar Gujral will arrive in Colombo for high level talks on November 11, Foreign Ministry sources told LANKAPUVATH. Mr. Gujral is expected to be in the island from November 11 to 13. Mr. Gujral's visit will be the first by an Indian Government minister since Mr. V.P. Singh's government took office.

Mr. Gujral has had several meetings with minister of plantation industries and minister of state for defence, Ranjan Wijeratne, who was also minister of foreign affairs at the time in New Delhi and invited Mr. Gujral to visit Sri Lanka. Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Harold Herath briefed Mr. Gujral on the situation in Sri Lanka when they met at the United Nations recently.

Speaking to newsmen in Colombo earlier this month Mr. Herath said he had thanked the Indian Gvernment for respecting the sovereignty and integrity of Sri Lanka. Mr. Herath also said that he could gather from the tone during the talks with Mr. Gujral that the Indian Gvernment did not trust the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] or want to have anything to do with it.

Indian Said To Introduce LTTE to Israelis

BK2210121890 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0941 GMT 22 Oct 90

[OANA-Pool Item; all quotation marks as received]

[Text] Colombo, 22 Oct (LANKAPUVATH)—Maverick Indian politician and former Harvard economics professor, Dr. Subramaniam Swamy has said that it was he who first introduced the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) to the Israelis, which led to their consequent training by the Mossad, states a report datelined Washington appearing in today's DAILY NEWS. Swamy, who was visiting Washington told the DAILY NEWS that in 1985, LTTE representatives in the United States had come to him and requested that he use his 'Israeli contacts' to facilitate that country's renowned intelligence agency to provide them with military training.

"I immediately phoned David Kimche, whom I knew very well and had met with through my Harvard contacts, and Kimche, who was then the director-general of the Israeli Foreign Office, told me to put these guys in touch with David Matnai who was the political officer in Washington", Swamy said.

He noted that "I know for a fact" that Matnai then met with the LTTE representatives and on the strength of Kimche's backing had assured the LTTE that the Mossad would help them in their training. [Words indistinct] liaison in Washington ostensibly posing as the political officer in the Israeli Embassy.

Swami's revelation comes in the wake of the controversial book written by a former Mossad agent who says that Tamil militants were trained in a commando naval base in Israel where they learned penetration techniques, mining and communications, and how to sabotage vessels similar to the government's large PT boats.

The book, "By Way of Deception: The Making and Unmaking of a Mossad Officer" authored by Victor Ostrovsky, said that the Tamil militants were trained simultaneously with government security forces at two military camps in the same base at Kfar Sirkin.

Swamy acknowledged that he had been an early sympathizer of the LTTE, but had fallen out with the group after was attacked by Tigers spokesman Anton Balasingham, who "accused me of being a CIA agent." He said that Balasingham had made these charges when he (Swamy) had publicly announced that he had put together a team of retired Indian generals who had promised to train the Tamil militants.

Swamy said that subsequently LTTE supremo Velupillai Prabhakaran had sent several messages to him apologising for Balasingham's statements and imploring him to continue help them in their efforts. "But I have absolutely no sympathy for them now and I believe that the LTTE has been responsible for all the misery of the Tamils in Sri Lanka, he said.

Swamy asserted that "they are making unnecessary enemies and to hell with them, especially that idiot Balasingham", "can you imagine, that guy (Balasingham) was enjoying our hospitality and then accusing me of being a CIA agent when I was genuinely trying to help them," he added.

Swamy said he was familiar with the charges made in Ostrovsky's book and claimed that the LTTE as recently "as five months ago," had asked the Israelis to help them once again, but the Israelis turned them down". Asked why the Israelis had turned them down, Swamy said "they (the Israelis) felt that they couldn't trust them (the LTTE) anymore," but acknowledged that it could have been that the latter couldn't come up with the money needed for the specialised training. Swamy acknowledged that he was, "still in touch with my friends in Israel," in the Foreign Ministry and other departments in government and said that they continued to urge him to convince New Delhi to establish diplomatic relations with Tel Aviv.